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'INTERNATIONAL SITUATION--QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS' PROGRAM

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["International Situation--Questions and Answers" program presented by Valeriy Ivanovich Kosovan, All-Union Radio foreign affairs commentator; Oleg Nikolayevich Anichkin, TASS political observer; Nikolay Vladimirovich Shishlin, international affairs journalist; Yuriy Vladimirovich Soltan, Soviet Television and Radio correspondent in Washington; and Edward Vasilyevich Kovalev, international affairs journalist]

[Excerpts] [Kosovan] Many of our listeners ask us to discuss in detail the main results of the meetings between Leonid Ilyich Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and the leaders of the fraternal parties and states. These meetings took place in the Crimea during July and August. We have here in our studio Nikolay Vladimirovich Shishlin, commentator on international affairs. I am handing the microphone over to him.

Crimea Meetings

[Shishlin] First of all, I would like to say that meetings in the Crimea have long been a tradition in the socialist commonwealth and a very important tradition at that, for these meetings allow exchanges on strategic questions between the leaders of the fraternal parties. By themselves the meetings in the Crimea have become a very important means of strengthening the cooperation and deepening the friendship of socialist countries. Friendship and cooperation are not abstract notions, they do not define some elusive matter. Behind these notions are concrete actions, concrete steps and concrete deeds. On this level, the results of the Crimean meetings were precisely characterized in the document of the CPSU Central Committee, which was recently published in the central press. This document stressed that the talks in the Crimea between Comrade Brezhnev and the leaders of the fraternal parties and states manifest an important step in the further strengthening of the socialist commonwealth and deepening the all-round cooperation of the fraternal parties, countries and peoples in the construction of socialism and communism and create favorable conditions for preparing new steps in the development of this cooperation.

[Kosovan] Nikolay Vladimirovich, what questions were discussed in the Crimea?

[Shishlin] The questions discussed in the Crimea are of a long-term nature and of great perspective. In the first place, they concerned the problem of cooperation among the socialist states in the solution of the tasks of socialist and communist construction. An accord was reached in the Crimea on the main trends in the coordination of the national economic plans for the forthcoming and subsequent 5-year periods. The profound analysis of the international situation has become an important feature of the Crimean meetings this year.

A certain slowdown has occurred in the detente process and the causes are known. This is not only the result of actions by the United States and some other NATO countries to step up the arms race; but it also includes the acts of the U.S. administration, which is trying, under the guise of hypocritical statements in defense of civil and personal rights and freedoms, to interfere in the domestic affairs of the Soviet Union and other socialist countries. These actions certainly poison the international atmosphere. There is no doubt that along with these negative manifestations and, to a certain extent, in apparent collusion with them, are the actions of Peking.

Peking is conducting a great power, hegemonist policy. Moreover, as the latest facts show, this policy is already becoming direct expansionism toward the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and also some of China's other neighbors. The Politburo of the party's Central Committee, as the document of the CPSU Central Committee says, stresses the serious danger posed for the cause of peace and socialism by the actions of the present Chinese leaders.

[Kosovan] Does this slowdown in the detente process mean that detente in general is entering a blind alley?

[Shishlin] The Crimean meetings provide a clear answer to this question: It does not. The trend toward detente continues to dominate international relations, although it has encountered certain difficulties. To overcome these difficulties, to march confidently forward toward peace, the socialist countries defined in the Crimea a sufficiently concrete, clear, principled and constructive program of action. This applies primarily to the problem of disarmament. The socialist countries' approach to this problem is profoundly constructive.

At the SALT talks, the Soviet Union has advanced a fully acceptable proposal and, as a matter of fact, the conclusion of an agreement now depends on the United States, and its correspondingly constructive approach. At the talks in Vienna on cuts in armed forces and arms in central Europe, there is also a basis for a mutually acceptable agreement. This basis is a result of all those constructive proposals advanced in the Austrian capital by the Soviet Union and other socialist countries.

[Kosovan] Nikolay Vladimirovich, the Crimean meetings have demonstrated with complete clarity the attitude of the Soviet Union and other socialist countries to the settlement of world crisis situations.

[Shishlin] These crisis situations remain. Moreover, new ones have appeared, first of all, the expansionism of China, toward the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. The older crisis situations have not, unfortunately, calmed down. Take, for example, the situation in the Near East. A meeting has been planned between President as-Sadat and Israeli Prime Minister Begin, under the patronage of White House. But then, the luggage that Begin will take to the U.S. capital is well known. This is in fact the continued occupation of Arab lands; this is a resolute rejection of the need to meet the legitimate right of the Arab people of Palestine to form their own nation.

The fact that the socialist countries also have a principled position on this question, the fact that they resolutely oppose a situation in which an aggressor is rewarded for his aggression, that they advocate the meeting of the just demands of Arabs and the recognition of all people's rights for free and independent development--this is, no doubt, a serious contribution to the policy of peace, to the policy that asserts people's right to social progress.

It was stated in the Crimea that the countries that adhere to the principles of detente and that are devoted to detente have the ability to take practical steps in this direction. Life itself convincingly proves this. As a result of the talks between Leonid Ilyich Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and the leaders of the fraternal parties and states, the cooperation of socialist states is becoming richer in all important fields and directions. A certain consolidation of forces is taking place, in which every socialist country is a winner, in which the socialist community is a winner and in which the cause of peace and social progress also wins.

Election of New Pope

[Kosovan] A new Roman Catholic pope to replace the late Paul VI, who died in early August, was elected a few days ago in Rome at a conclave of the cardinals of the church. Our listeners Julius (Lauritenas), from Lithuania, (Mariya Demchenko), from Transcarpathia and others are interested in the election of the new pope and how this event may influence the future position and policy of the Roman Catholic Church. We have asked Eduard Vasilyevich Kovalev, international affairs journalist, to answer your questions. Tell us, Eduard Vasilyevich, who has become the new head of the Roman Catholic Church?

[Kovalev] The cardinals who met in the Sistine Chapel have elected the 262d successor to the apostle Saint Peter, who, according to commonly accepted tradition, was the first head of the Catholic Church. He is 66-year-old Cardinal Albino Luciani, the patriarch of Venice. He has the reputation of being a supporter of the policies of the late Pope Paul VI. There was a tradition behind him: Two of the best-known popes, Pius X and John XXIII, had served in the church in Venice. In his life as a cardinal and patriarch, Albino Luciani became well known for his balanced position and his stanchness, firmness and decisiveness on questions of morals and church doctrine. The new head of the Catholic Church has chosen a double name: John Paul I. This is symbolic: The new pope wishes to unite in himself the qualities of his two predecessors, Pope John XXIII, one of the major reformers of the Catholic Church, and his successor, Paul VI, who conformed to the times. As they say, may God grant that our speculations prove close to the truth.

Commenting on the election of the new pope, the French paper L'HUMANITE said the other day; may the new pope be the pope of the poor and not of the rich; may he, like John XXIII, give his blessing to peace and not to war or arms. And if he manages not only to give his blessings, but also to assist in the victory of the sacred struggle for peace and against poverty, he will earn the gratitude not only of Catholics but also of nonbelievers. These words from the French Communist Party paper show as clearly as possible what ordinary people in the West expect of the new head of the Catholic Church.

[Kosovan] Eduard Vasilyevich, I would remind you of our listeners' question; how will the election of the new pope influence the Vatican's policy?

[Kovalev] Undoubtedly, it is not just a matter of who was elected head of the Catholic Church. The main point is the policy that the new pope will pursue. His election determines for many years to come the Vatican's position on many of the most important problems uniting or dividing our modern world. In the immediate future, the new pope will be required to give an unambiguous answer to the question; will he continue and develop the policy of his two predecessors, Paul VI and John XXIII, who in many ways rejected the former traditional, conservative position of the Catholic Church and tried to bring it out of isolation? The late Paul VI was rightly convinced that church [word indistinct] would not help solve the complicated problems of the modern world. Thanks to such a policy, he succeeded in reducing the isolation of the papacy. Paul VI held historic meetings with the heads of both the Russian Orthodox and the Anglican churches. Together with the leaders of the Russian Orthodox Church and a number of other religious organizations, both the preceding popes often acted in favor of peace, disarmament and international detente and supported the normalization of relations between the Vatican and the socialist countries. Delegates from the Vatican participated in the Helsinki conference and signed the Final Act.

Both these Vatican figures recognized the necessity of having deep respect for the right of each interlocutor to his own opinion.

These favorable changes in the Catholic Church's position, of course, have been and, for the time being, still are limited and have not touched on church dogmas. Neither is it a secret that many figures in the Catholic Church still maintain positions that are far from progressive, to put it mildly. But let us recall that Rome, and Moscow, too, for that matter, was not built in a day. The Western press has much to say at the moment about the election of the pope and the possible consequences.

Certain people, claiming a good knowledge of the affairs of the Catholic Church, would like very much in some way to influence the development of future events. Writing in the press, they portray as incorrect the course pursued by the late Paul VI, aimed at normalizing relations with other churches and with the socialist countries and with atheists, and they appeal openly to people to promote in every way the rebirth of the influence of Christian ideology and, as they put it, the belittling of the communists' position in Catholic countries. All these conservatives, or rather real ecclesiastical retrogrades and reactionaries, are currently appealing to preserve the church's truth from all heresy and the mistakes of modern humanism. Yes, what could be better? Their words can be interpreted only as an appeal to go back to the Middle Ages. But I think they are hardly likely to succeed in this; times have long since changed. The coming months will show whether the supporters of the Catholic Church's return to its former open confrontation with the forces of peace and social progress will be able to succeed or whether, on the contrary, the new, rational element that was introduced in the Vatican's position by John XXIII and Paul VI will triumph, as it has done in the past decade.

MBFR Talks

[Kosovan] Continuing the talk begun at your request, comrades, about measures to limit the arms race and to achieve disarmament, let us turn to Vienna, where talks are in progress on mutual reduction of armed forces and armaments in central Europe. Why have concrete results still not been achieved there? We have passed this question to Oleg Nikolayevich Anichkin, TASS political observer. Over to you, Oleg Nikolayevich!

[Anichkin] The Vienna talks on mutual reduction of armed forces and armaments in central Europe have been unduly drawn out. It should be said at the outset that a basis for agreement certainly already exists. The Soviet Union and the socialist states sincerely want to speed up the process of concluding an agreement. As you know, the Soviet Union and the socialist states recently submitted new proposals in Vienna. These are directed at making the talks fruitful.

[Kosovan] Oleg Nikolayevich, it is noteworthy that the timing of the proposals coincided with the special UN session on disarmament. This was proof that the Soviet Union firmly supports detente.

[Anichkin] Let me remind you briefly of the details of the proposals made by the socialist states. They express willingness to establish, through reduction, equal collective numerical levels of the armed forces of NATO and of the Warsaw Pact countries--900,000 men on each side, including 700,000 ground troops. The socialist states consider it necessary to envisage, in the framework of collective levels, provisions that would not allow any state to later restore, or still increase, the strength of the forces it had prior to the reduction. The collective levels must include the forces of all the direct participants in the talks, without exception. The result is equal participation of all states in the reduction of forces and armaments.

I should like to stress also that an important aspect of the new initiative of the socialist countries is their willingness to limit the reduction of armed forces to ground troops, while, at the same time, setting a maximum level for the strength of air force personnel. A step forward has also been taken in the extent and structure of the initial reduction of the forces of the Soviet Union and the United States. A characteristic feature of these proposals is that they exclude the possibility of anyone claiming the right to unequal reduction. Summing up the significance of the new proposals by the socialist countries, we may say that they create a realistic basis for a mutually acceptable agreement that will not harm the security of the participating states.

[Kosovan] Oleg Nikolayevich, no impartial observer doubts that the socialist states are ready, on the basis of their proposals, to do everything possible to finally achieve a breakthrough in the talks. But it is obvious that it must be a mutual effort. The Western participants must not just sit back and wait. Although reactions have varied, most of the participating countries have expressed, in one form or another, optimism concerning the new proposals by the socialist states, noting that these proposals open up prospects for an agreement by calling for measures that meet the Western states halfway.

[Anichkin] After completion of the 15th round, the press revealed that certain states taking part in the Vienna talks had not, in fact, renounced their attempts to drag the talks on indefinitely and, ultimately, to prevent an agreement. During the 15th round, it became apparent that the Western states still intended to press for a greater reduction of Soviet ground troops under the pretext of the so-called imbalance in favor of the Warsaw Pact countries. With any proof, it asserted that the ground troops of the socialist countries considerably exceed those of NATO. In making this allegation, the Western countries do not bother to cite the source of such information. In making such misleading statements, they demand that the socialist countries should refute the data themselves. In contrast to the possibility that an agreement was starting to take shape, the participants in the talks, especially the United States, again began to delay. Completely unacceptable proposals have been made. They put it this way: If the Soviet Union wants an agreement, then it must agree to asymetrical reduction of its forces.

[Kosovan] In other words, they demand a greater reduction of the forces of the socialist countries than of the armies of the NATO states.

[Anichkin] The result is that the United States is reverting to its old stand, which has already been rejected. Moreover, Washington is resorting to inadvisable methods of conducting the talks--threatening that if the Soviet Union does not agree to make bigger concessions to the West, the talks, as they put it, will not be continued indefinitely. The United States, its representatives state, will then be forced to start deploying neutron weapons in Western Europe.

[Kosovan] Such a way of conducting the talks cannot be viewed as anything other than blackmail. It has been shown at the talks that it is impossible to achieve an agreement by using threats.

[Anichkin] Many observers are now beginning to ask: What is this, really? Is it blackmail, or is the United States really preparing to deploy neutron weapons in central Europe in the near future? In any case, that is what the American press recently reported. Obviously, this is the start of a dangerous and risky game, which can only alarm the European public. At the Vienna talks, thanks to the socialist countries, a good foundation has been created for mutual agreement.

Their proposals reflect a desire to ease the military confrontation in central Europe. The merit of their proosals is that they begin with the security interests of all sides. An agreement in Vienna would make it possible to go on to the discussion of other concrete questions of military detente in Europe. Whether we succeed in getting the inordinately long Vienna talks on the reduction of forces and armaments in central Europe moving largely depends on the approach of the Western powers to the constructive proposals of the socialist countries.

Carter, Congress Differences

[Kosovan] Listeners (Dayants), from Voronezh, Krasnova, from Sverdlovsk, and many others are interested in the reasons for the differences between the White House and Congress. Here is what Yuriy Soltan, our correspondent in Washington, has to say.

[Soltan] Yes, indeed, relations between Congress and the White House have been fairly strained recently, even though the majority in both Houses belongs to the Democratic Party, which, 2 years ago, nominated Georgia Governor James Carter for the presidency. The expected harmony did not happen. Other Democratic presidents have also found themselves in the same position, including John Kennedy and Lyndon Johnson, but they were given much more support by Congress than is now being given to President Carter. For instance, Congress has refused to support many of the administration's bills. Some of them were immediately rejected, others were postponed indefinitely and still others are undergoing substantial revisions. Matters are not helped by the personal attitudes of congressional leaders toward the President. As one eminent senator, Charles Percy, stated: Congress simply does not understand what President Carter's policy really is. In turn, much abuse of Congress comes from the White House. The magazine U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT writes that the President's advisers are not reticent about expressing themselves when the talk concerns congressmen and senators. They refer to them as being thick-skulled, petty and irresponsible.

What is all this about? There have always been disputes and conflicts between the executive and legislative branches in the United States, but this time the honeymoon has ended too quickly. There are many reasons for this, but I will highlight two that are, in my view, the most important. First, there is the loss of trust in the President by many legislators, including members of his own party. Congressmen and senators have to consider the moods of their voters, especially since this is a mid-term election year. In November, all 435 congressmen and 37 senators will be up for re-election, while public opinion polls have shown that the people's attitude toward the President is not the best. A recent New York TIMES/CBS television poll showed that only 28 percent of Americans approve of the President's domestic economic policy. Another poll, conducted by the Harris service, showed the attitude toward the President's foreign policy. This was approved by an even smaller number of Americans, just 25 percent. For this reason many legislators, especially those up for re-election, are trying, either directly or covertly, to disassociate themselves from the President, not wishing to bear with him the responsibility for the country's present situation.

There is another reason. In recent years all American presidents have been trying to usurp as much power as possible from Congress. The Vietnamese adventure, which cost the American people dearly, and the Watergate affair showed the danger of these aspirations. Laws were passed by Congress limiting the ability of the President to send U.S. troops to fight in other countries.

But quite recently, Carter was hoping to regain these powers. Congress was sent a special White House message saying that the restrictions on the options of the President may undermine the United States' ability to respond to fast-moving international situations. Naturally, this evoked dissatisfaction in Congress, which has exacerbated still further the differences between Congress and the White House.

At the same time, the differences must not be exaggerated. Both Congress and the White House defend the same interests of the country's ruling class. Frequently, so-called conflicts between legislative and executive authority are used to deceive public opinion--when Congress puts the blame on the White House and the latter in turn blames Congress, explaining that, allegedly, because of the other side's position important issues facing the country cannot be resolved. But in essence the U.S. politicians--both in Congress and the White House--manifest complete unity. This is also true at present when, contrary to his campaign promises, Carter decided to raise the military budget by several billion dollars, and Congress not only supported him but even added supplementary appropriations that raised the military budget to approximately $130 billion. Nor is Congress being outdone by the White House in unleashing an anti-Soviet campaign, military hysteria and instigation of international adventures.

The composition of Congress, of course, is not uniform. It includes quite a few liberal politicians who understand the vital need for the United States to live in peace with the Soviet Union and who understand the need to seek ways to reduce the arms race and to develop economic links without discrimination or attempts to interfere in our internal affairs.

These people are critical of the policy adopted by the administration, which is aimed at undermining the policy of detente. This is also one of the reasons for the present differences between Congress and the White House.

As-Sadat's Life, Activities

[Kosovan] Judging by their letters, many of our listeners have liked the portion entitled "who's who". Today, at the request of (Batrakov), from Moskovskaya Oblast and (Solodovnikov), from Omsk, we shall acquaint you, comrades, with the biography and activities of as-Sadat, the Egyptian president.

Anwar as-Sadat was born in 1918 into a peasant family. After receiving his primary education at an Islamic school, he chose a military career and graduated from a military college. It was there, in fact, that he made the acquaintance of Jamal 'Abd an-Nasir. Subsequently, As-Sadat, along with An-Nasir, began to take part in Egypt's national liberation movement. As-Sadat's biography is notable for the fact that during World War II he supported fascism and even attempted to collaborate with Hitlerite agents in Egypt. Later, under the influence of Nasir, As-Sadat joined the activities of the free officers underground movement, which headed the 1952 revolution in Egypt. Enjoying the trust of President An-Nasir, As-Sadat quickly developed a career and not just in the military. At the same time, he became the commander of Egypt's Armed Forces and entered the country's political arena. From 1964 onward, As-Sadat was a member of the Revolutionary Council and became vice president of Egypt in 1969. Coming to power after An-Nasir's death, As-Sadat loudly declared that he would continue the course of the late president, which, incidentally, made him popular among the Egyptians. However, the way he began to carry out Nasir's policy is well-known.

The situation in Egypt, particularly the reaction of the Egyptians to the domestic and foreign policy recently pursued by the country's leadership, have been elucidated more than once in our broadcasts. The so-called open door policy of President as-Sadat and his separate talks with Israel have evoked sharp condemnation from the Egyptian working people. One could see this quite clearly from the events of last January, when the government decided to cancel the state price supports for essential goods. Protest demonstrations involving tens of thousands of the working people flared up in Cairo and other towns, and strikes paralyzed the majority of the major enterprises. Despite the bloody repressions and mass arrest, the government was forced to quickly announce that the announced measures were being postponed.

French lawyer (Jacques Lagadette) recently made a trip to the Arab Republic of Egypt on behalf of the International Association of Democratic Lawyers. He detailed his impressions in a report presented to the association. (Lagadette) concluded that attacks on democratic liberties in Egypt had reached a threatening scope, and that the repressive policy of President as-Sadat was directed at suppressing all manifestations of the country's democratic life. For instance, the law defending national unity and social peace that gives the Egyptian prosecutor general special powers in hounding persons with progressive convictions, constitutes, in the view of political observers, a serious threat to democracy in Egypt.

At the beginning of August the first session of a public trial of As-Sadat, the Egyptian president was held in Baghdad. This trial was the result of the decision of the Arab People's Congress, which was adopted in Tripoli last December, in accordance with the provisions of the Arab constitutions. The Egyptian president was accused of serious crimes against the Egyptian people and the whole Arab nation. It was stressed that the trial was not the prosecution of one person for the crimes he has committed. It is the trial of As-Sadat's capitulatory policy, which is doing considerable damage to the pan-Arab struggle to liberate the occupied territories and is leading to the preservation of the Israeli occupation and a strengthening of the influence of imperialism and the forces of reaction in the Arab world. The next session of the trial will take place on 19 November.

KORNILOV STATES USSR WILL STRIVE TO CONSOLIDATE DETENTE

LD021520Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0900 GMT 2 Sep 78 LD

[Text] Moscow--TASS political observer Yuriy Kornilov writes: The 1970's were marked by major shifts in world policy and by a growth of positive trends and processes that came to be known collectively as international detente. These positive changes, particularly in Europe, did not occur by themselves. They are the result of a lengthy, intense and stubborn struggle for peace, which continues to be led by the socialist states.

The energetic and concerted activities of the CPSU and fraternal parties serve the high humanitarian goal of strengthening the peace and security of the people, ridding mankind of the exhausting arms race imposed by imperialism and the threat of thermonuclear war and of consolidating and deepening international detente and the principles of peaceful coexistence and mutually beneficial cooperation between states with different social systems.

Now the chief fundamental task is to consolidate political detente with military detente and end material preparations for war. It is notable that it is precisely the Soviet Union and other socialist countries that have made a decisive contribution to the foundations of detente.

They are in the forefront of the struggle to curb the arms race, especially in the nuclear arms race, and are vigorously and consistently striving to attain real progress in this most important area of international policy. There is no type of weapon that the Soviet Union would not be ready to limit and ban on a reciprocal basis with other states and then remove from its arsenals. But the deepening of detente and the curbing of the arms race are not easy tasks. The facts testify that, the firmer the trend toward relaxation of international tension, the fiercer is the resistance to these trends by the enemies of peace. This resistance is occuring in different forms and is implemented by different methods. On the one hand, certain imperialist circles in the United States and NATO, which express the aspirations of the military-industrial complex, are stubbornly attempting to push the world into a new expensive and extremely dangerous round of the arms race, under the pretext of fabrications about a mythical "Soviet threat." On the other hand, but in the same direction, Peking is striving to block any measures to consolidate detente and curb the arms race and is trying to justify militarism under the pretext of raving "theories" alleging that "war is inevitable" and that war is almost "a normal phenomenon." The approach is different, but the goal is the same: to torpedo detente and to exacerbate international tension.

Lately there has been a serious aggravation of the situation in Southeast Asia, where Peking, with hegemonistic aspirations, is continuing its policy of unprecedented pressure and blackmail toward the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, and is employing a "diplomacy of fear", with the help of growing direct and indirect pressure, to intimidate the other countries of the region and to create a kind of "sphere of obedience," to subordinate neighboring states and peoples to the Maoist diktat.

Everyone to whom peace is dear must feel concern and alarm when observing the development of events in certain other regions, where imperialist and reactionary circles, acting along parallel and sometimes coordinated lines, and conducting subversion, aimed at destabilizing the situation and a deterioration of the international climate. It is precisely the actions of these forces hostile to detente that explain the fact that the conflict in the Near East has not yet been settled, that Arab lands are still under the heel of the Israeli occupiers and the Near East region as a whole continues to remain an explosive area. It is the activity of the same forces that is hindering the elimination of the bastions of colonialism and racism in southern Africa.

Of course, at present, when detente has become the recognized factor of international life, it is increasingly difficult for the enemies of peace, including those in Peking, to act boldly. Often, instead of a frontal attack, they prefer all kinds of maneuvers hidden by lies and slander. For instance, they declare for all to hear that they are well nigh "defenders of the freedom and independence of peoples," while they are actually forming an alliance with the most reactionary and militarist forces, attempting to foist an unbridled arms race on people and to cast them into the abyss of a destructive war. They wrap themselves up in the toga of "friends of the nonalined states," while setting one of these states, Kampuchea, against another, Socialist Vietnam, attempting to undermine the independence of neighboring countries and making territorial claims against them.

It must be said that the international situation as a whole has become more complicated. Nevertheless, even in these conditions--and this was particularly stressed by the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, which examined the results of Leonid Brezhnev's friendly meetings in the Crimea in July and August with the leaders of fraternal parties and states--the Soviet Union, guided by the decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress, intends, together with its friends and allies, to persistently strive for a deepening of detente, a broadening of peaceful and mutually advantageous cooperation between states, a halt to the arms race and a transition to disarmament. The peace offensive of socialism, of the other democratic and peaceloving forces, continues.

CAPITALIST PROTECTIONISM HURTS DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

LD041645Y Moscow TASS in English 1456 GMT 4 Sep 78 LD

[Text] Manila, September 4, TASS--The protectionist policies, which have been particularly zealously pursued by the industrialized states of the West, hit the developing states most heavily. A statement to this effect was made here to newsmen by Finance Minister of the Philippines, Chairman of the World Bank's Development Committee Cesar Virata. He said that the question of the dangers of protectionism is examined in the August report by the World Bank. The report admits in particular that the protectionist policies of the USA and West-European countries directed against Japan undermine above all the economy of the developing states. Ever new trade barriers are put up and quotas are introduced in the way of their industrial and farm products. There is a danger that this trend will be developing in the future, too. The growing trade restrictions, says the report, create an atmosphere of lack of confidence and ambiguity as regards the future, which adversely affects the economy of the developing states.

The statement by the minister is highly indicative as the capitalist powers declare by word of mouth their readiness to establish a new international economic order, but as a matter of fact only create a semblance of a businesslike discussion of long-ripe problems. In their dialogues with the developing countries they are trying to reduce the whole complex package of trade and economic relations to the question of their stable supply with raw materials, in the first place with oil. The preservation of the unjust system of international economic relations created by capitalism enables them to misappropriate a considerable part of the national income of the emergent states. The annual losses of the developing states in connection with the difference in the prices of the products exported and imported by them, as well as on other contracts, are estimated from 50 to 100 billion dollars a year.

WEST, PRC DEVELOPING PLANS FOR NEW MILITARY BLOCS

LD021005Y Moscow TASS in English 0750 GMT 2 Sep 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, September 2, TASS--In an article titled "New Blocs?" Vitaliy Korionov comments on foreign press reports on the plans of militarist circles to set up new military blocs. One of such plans concerns the south Atlantic, where it has planned to establish a military bloc called SATO.

American imperialism has long been seeking to assert itself in the Atlantic and in the Indian Ocean as well as other strategic communication lines, PRAVDA's commentator writes. Such efforts have been especially intensified in recent years when the positions of imperialism have weakened and the forces of socialism and the national liberation movement have grown stronger.

In establishing SATO, Washington hopes to rely for support on the dictatorial regimes in the "southern cone" of Latin America, primarily in Chile and Uruguay, and on the other side of the Atlantic, the racist regimes in the south of Africa, the commentary says.

American imperialism is prodding these regimes into greater "cooperation" among themselves. The Republic of South Africa supplies arms to the South American dictators, while the Chilean junta sends mercenaries for Pretoria's operations against the Namibian patriots.

Nor do the Maoists stay aloof from the imperialist machinations, the commentator goes on. China is flirting with the North Atlantic bloc and developing relations with the Common Market, a fact which gives the Western press reason to describe China more and more often as NATO's "eastern adjunct." The plans for establishing SATO are also supported by Peking.

Similar activity is also to be seen in other areas of the world, specifically in the Middle East where the militarists are hatching plans for establishing a military bloc, METO.

AFRO-ARAB CONFERENCE FACES THREAT FROM WEST, PRC

LD042312Y Moscow in English to Africa 2000 GMT 4 Sep 78 LD

[Excerpt] An international conference of solidarity with the struggle by African and Arab nations against imperialist and reactionary schemes is due in Addis Ababa from 14 to 17 September. Our analyst Georgiy Tanov comments:

The Addis Ababa forum comes at a time when imperialist powers, above all the United States and former colonial masters, have been sparing no effort to divide the African and Arab nations, set them against each other and kindle internecine wars in the region. The West is trying to reinforce the positions of its main counterrevolutionary bases--Israel and the colonial and racist regimes in southern Africa--by creating puppet governments and a system of neocolonialist mini-blocs.

This is borne out by attempts to create pan-African and afro-Asian punitive forces under the auspices of NATO, to set up a military political grouping in central and west Africa and the Red Sea alliance. The imperialists' intervention in Angola, the Horn of Africa and Zaire, the encouragement of aggressive raids by the racists against the front line states in southern Africa shows that the NATO powers have resorted to undisguised colonial methods of interference in the affairs of the developing countries.

Special danger stems from rapprochement between imperialist circles and Peking's leadership, which actually has become an ally of the most reactionary forces. Many participants in the forthcoming international conference in Addis Ababa emphasized even in the past that the platform of anti-Sovietism and antisocialism on which the West and Peking stand constitutes a military and political springboard. It is directed not only against the Soviet Union and the socialist community, but to the same degree against the forces of liberation and social progress.

BALKAN-MIDEAST COOPERATION PREPARATORY CONFERENCE HELD

LD042041Y Moscow TASS in English 1855 GMT 4 Sep 78 LD

[Text] Istanbul, September 4, TASS--An international preparatory conference "for cooperation between the Balkan and Middle East countries" is currently held here. The conference was called by the Turkish Society of Peace Supporters.

It is attended by representatives of the World Peace Council, as well as delegations from Bulgaria, Greece, Lebanon and the Palestine Liberation Organization. The conference considers the strengthening of cooperation between the Balkan and the Middle East countries in accordance with the principles of the Final Act of the European security conference. In their joint statement, the participants of the conference said that the people of the whole world have made considerable advances over the past years in their work for peace and security, for the development of cooperation between countries with different social and political systems.

Yet, stresses the statement, militarists in the USA and other NATO countries continue to take dangerous steps to impede international detente. Forces, hostile to the cause of peace, are especially active in the eastern part of the Mediterranean. To eliminate the dangerous spots of war in the area, says the statement, it is necessary to continue to work actively for the strengthening of detente and the recognition of the legitimate rights of the peoples in the Middle East.

WHO FIRST AID CONFERENCE OPENS IN ALMA-ATA

LD060641Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0500 GMT 6 Sep 78 LD

[Text] An international conference on medical and sanitary first aid, organized by the World Health Organization, opened in Alma-Ata today. Those gathered here include scientists, physicians, statesmen and politicians from almost 140 countries. They are to exchange experiences and opinions about medical and sanitary first aid developments and will become acquainted with the organization of health services in our country. Petrovskiy, the USSR health minister, has been elected chairman of the conference.

A letter of greetings to participants in the international conference from Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, was received with stormy, prolonged applause. The letter was read by Comrade Kunayev, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Central Committee of the Kazakhstan Communist Party.

Brezhnev Sends Message

LD060856Y Moscow TASS in English 0740 GMT 6 Sep 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, September 6, TASS--General Secretary of the CPSU CC, President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Leonid Brezhnev has addressed a message of greetings to the participants in the international conference on primary health care, which is currently in session in Alma-Ata, the capital of Kazakhstan (Soviet Republic in Asia). It is sponsored by the World Health Organisation and the U.N. Children's Fund. Participating in the conference are 140 countries.

The message of greetings says that the Soviet Union shares the aspirations of all peoples, particularly of the developing countries, striving for the eradication of mass diseases, hunger and poverty in the world. We, Leonid Brezhnev writes, are taking an active part in international measures directed at resolving the problem of giving medical aid to the population of countries of the world.

Solicitude for the improvement of health of people, the message of greetings notes, is inseparably linked with the resolution of the main problem of the present--preservation and strengthening of peace, a further deepening of the process of detente, elimination of the threat of nuclear war and attainment of progress in the field of disarmament. Together with other countries, the Soviet Union is consistently and steadily coming out for the attainment of these lofty aims. I am confident that workers in the field of health protection, who by virtue of their profession are called upon to protect the life and health of people, will make a worthy contribution to the great cause of strengthening peace and friendhsip of peoples.

In the Soviet Union, the right to generally available and free medical aid for citizens is sealed in the Constitution of the USSR and is ensured by the state system of health protection.

In conclusion, Leonid Brezhnev expressed confidence that the work of the conference will be an important milestone on the road of broadening international cooperation, in the field of health protection and will contribute towards a further strengthening of mutual understanding between the medical workers of the whole world.

UN ESCAP SEMINAR DISCUSSES PLANNING TECHNIQUES

LD041251Y Dushanbe KOMMUNIST TADZHIKISTANA in Russian 22 Aug 78 p 1 LD

[Unattributed report: "Useful Experience of Cooperation"]

[Excerpt] A seminar of the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific on questions of planning techniques and monitoring of plan fulfillment has concluded its work in Dushanbe. Representatives of India, Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Burma, Iran, Malaysia, Nepal, Pakistan, Thailand, Sri Lanka and the Philippines participated in its work.

Over the course of 2 weeks the participants in the seminar listened to 20 theme papers on economic problems delivered by well-known Soviet economists and executives of the country's planning organizations and held a broad discussion on them.

NURIYEV OPENS MOSCOW FARM EQUIPMENT EXHIBITION

LD060817Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 1 Sep 78 p 3 LD

[Text] TASS--An international exhibition of agricultural vehicles, equipment and instruments--Selkhoztekhnika-78--opened in the capital yesterday.

The exhibition was opened by Z.N. Muriyev, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers. B.A. Borisov, chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Chamber of Trade and Industry, and I.F. Sinitsyn, chairman of the exhibition's organizing committee and minister of tractor and agricultural machinebuilding, who spoke at the ceremony, noted the value of the exchange of experience in one of the most important production sectors. They stressed the great significance of the Moscow exhibition for the further strengthening and development of mutually advantageous international contacts.

'Soviet Enterprises Day'

LD012016Y Moscow TASS in English 1810 GMT 1 Sep 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, September 1, TASS--The Soviet Union is the biggest participant of the international Selkhoztekhnika-78 exhibition, which opened in Moscow on Thursday. On display are 1,500 vehicles, machines and instruments reflecting scientific and technical progress in the entire agricultural production.

Today the exhibition observed the day of Soviet enterprises and organisations. It was noted at a press conference that the Soviet Union turns out the same number of tractors and farm machines as the United States, Britain, France and the FRG combined. More than 2.4 million tractors, 685 thousand grain harvesters, 1.5 million lorries and many other machines are working in fields of the USSR. The produce of the Soviet machinery-making is exported to more than 60 countries.

The exhibition displays special combines for cultivation, harvesting and further processing of main crops: potato, sugar beet, flax and cotton. For the first time on display is a machine for multi-stage picking of raw cotton and which mechanises the picking of seed cotton.

Another interesting exhibit is a six-row self-propelled maize harvester.

The exhibition also presents onion pickers and graders, a tomato self-propelled harvester and a cabbage picker, which all cut labour requirements by 80-83 per cent. For the first time on display are machines for mechanising picking of apples, cherries and berries. Many of them have been designed and are being manufactured within the framework of the international Agrommash society, which incorporates the Soviet Union, Bulgaria, Hungary, the GDR, Poland and Czechoslovakia.

The Selkhoztekhnika-78 exhibition is attended by firms and organisations from 23 countries.

INTERPARLIAMENTARY UNION CONFERENCE OPENS IN BONN

LD051728Y Moscow TASS in English 1456 GMT 5 Sep 78 LD

[Text] Bonn, September 5, TASS--The scheduled 65th conference of the Interparliamentary Union, with the participation of representatives of 72 member countries of the Interparliamentary Union, including the USSR, has opened in the FRG capital today. Attending the conference are also delegates from a number of other international organizations and representatives of the Palestine Liberation Organization.

The delegates to the conference will devote major attention to problems of disarmament, the Middle East situation, the efforts for the liquidation of colonialism, the role of parliaments in studying and drawing up methods of combatting international terrorism and other topical issues.

The parliamentarians are called upon to play an important role in the cause of strengthening peace, deepening detente and broadening cooperation between countries with different social systems.

The forum of parliamentarians was opened by FRG President W. Scheel. FRG Chancellor H. Schmidt, Bundestag President K. Carstens, President of the Council and Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Interparliamentary Union T. Williams addressed delegates of the conference with greetings. The conference also received a message from U.N. Secretary General Kurt Waldheim.

Vitaliy Ruben Address

LD052310Y Moscow TASS in English 2150 GMT 5 Sep 78 LD

[Text] Bonn, September 5, TASS--Head of the Soviet delegation, Deputy Chairman of the Parliamentary Group of the USSR, Chairman of the Soviet of Nationalities of the USSR Supreme Soviet Vitaliy Ruben spoke at the 65th conference of the Interparliamentary Union that opened here today. He stressed that disarmament is the most topical problem of our time. To curb the arms race, to achieve real disarmament--this call is made by all peace forces of the world, the Soviet delegate said.

The Soviet Union jointly with its allies--socialist countries--is looking for new approaches to ensuring disarmament, invariably makes real initiatives in this sphere, Vitaliy Ruben said. On behalf of the Parliamentary Group of the USSR, Vitaliy Ruben urged parliamentarians to exert efforts to the utmost to achieve the noble goal--durable peace free from weapons and wars.

CRAWFORD DENIES ACCUSATIONS OF LARGE-SCALE CURRENCY DEALS

LD051848Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1743 GMT 5 Sep 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, 5 September, TASS--The Moscow City Court today continued proceedings in the joint criminal case based on the accusation of infringing currency regulations directed against Vladimir Kiselev, Lyudmila Kiseleva and Alla Solovyeva--all three Moscow inhabitants--and Francis Crawford, a U.S. citizen.

Presiding, Lev Mironiv, deputy chairman of the Moscow City Court, verified that all those involved in the trial were present, briefed them on their rights and duties and asked them to present pleas or objections to the members of the court, if they had any. No pleas or objections were received.

Lyudmila Kiseleva stated at that point that she had made a full statement during the preliminary investigation and that she did not require a counsel to defend her since she was admitting her guilt and was able to defend herself on her own. The court complied with her request.

Then, after questions of procedure provided for by the code on criminal proceedings of the Russian Federation had been examined, the judge read out the indictment.

According to the indictment, Vladimir Kiselev is charged with having systematically, over a number of years, engaged in buying and reselling foreign currency and in currency speculation on a large scale, with the aim of making money and as a commercial enterprise.

His wife Lyudmila is charged with complicity in the crime, and Alla Solovyeva with abusing her official position, selling and exchanging foreign currency in breach of the rules for currency operations.

The American citizen Francis Crawford, one of the members of this group of currency speculators, is before the court for deliberate breach of Soviet laws and for committing criminal acts with the aim of making money.

Vladimir and Lyudmila Kiselev and also Alla Solovyeva have fully admitted their guilt. Francis Crawford has declined to admit his guilt.

After this, the court began interrogating the accused.

Vladimir Kiselev spoke about his criminal deals with Soviet and foreign citizens, including Francis Crawford. Kiselev said that a female acquaintance of his and Crawford's told him at the end of 1976 that the American businessman was looking for a "partner" whom he could supply with foreign currency against Soviet roubles at the "black market" or a bit cheaper prices. Through this woman and at her apartment Kiselev became acquainted with Crawford. Crawford offered to buy foreign currency, from Kiselev regularly.

Crawford and Kiselev committed a number of large unlawful deals during 1977-1978. At the end of the period of their joint criminal activity each deal amounted to $1,500 to $2,000 or R 4-5,000.

Kiselev told the court in detail of the precautionary measures and contrivances, and of how Crawford constantly warned him of the need to use them. Lyudmila Kiseleva gave evidence during the court examination that she had personally been present at a number of conspiratorial meetings between her husband and Crawford, during which large-scale illegal deals were made, as well as the circumstances of her acquaintance with American citizens and their relations. The evidence of Vladimir and Lyudmila Kiselev shows that the initiative in the illegal deals came from Crawford, who therefore played the major role in their criminal relations.

Alla Solovyeva gave exhaustive explanations during court examination which complement the materials of the preliminary investigation and confirm the objectivity of Kiselev's evidence on his criminal contacts with foreigners, including Crawford.

The court then began examination of Crawford.

First of all, Crawford told of the circumstances of his acquaintance with the Kiselev couple. It happened, according to Crawford, with the assistance of Larisa Furmanova, a Soviet acquaintance of one of the employees of International Harvester. She is a witness at the trial.

In his answers to questions asked by participants in the trial, Crawford maneuvered, resorting to various kinds of tricks and excuses, in an attempt to cast doubt on some of the evidence of the other defendants, including the location of his first meeting with the Kiselevs, which was later refuted by documents presented to the court. Crawford tried to give the court a thorough account of immaterial details, dragging out the legal proceedings and avoiding direct answers. His answers were crammed full of expressions such as: "I don't remember", "I didn't attribute any importance", "I miscalculated" and so on.

In this way, Crawford tried to mislead the court, claiming that he had exchanged a considerable sum of money through the USSR foreign trade bank in 1978, which was later refuted by the prosecutor. The official documents of the Foreign Trade Bank submitted to the court proved that Crawford did not conduct currency transactions through the bank in this period. It is obvious from other documents, made public at the trial, that Crawford's spending in Soviet rubles was 10 times greater than the sums that were officially at his disposal.

Regardless of this, Crawford tried to divert the court from the root of the matter, by giving a thorough account of the financial affairs of the company and its mission in the USSR, which did not have any bearing on the charge brought against him.

After this, the court began interrogating the witnesses.

Viktor Brodskiy told the court that he knew of the criminal link between Kiselev and Crawford and that he himself had once made a deal with Kiselev which made him over 20,000 rubles.

Witness Larisa Furmanova to whom Crawford referred in his court testimonies was interrogated after Brodskiy. Furmanova told the court that Crawford had once turned to her for assistance in finding a man to whom he could seel foreign currency--not at the official rate of exchange. He did this knowning that her acquaintance Kiselev was interested in foreign currency notes. She organized a meeting between Crawford and Kiselev at her apartment. There, they reached agreement on regular criminal deals.

Witness Sarskiy who was later interrogated testified that he had personally taken Kiselev to Crawford's mission where the notes were handed over to the American.

At this point the court recessed until 0900 on 6 September. The trial of the currency speculators is continuing.

U.S. BUSINESSMEN SEEK IMPROVED RELATIONS WITH USSR

LD011116Y Moscow TASS in English 1032 GMT 1 Sep 78 LD

[Text] New York, September 1, TASS--American businessmen express themselves in favour of improving relations with the Soviet Union.

A similar statement was made, for instance, by M. Forrestall, a prominent American businessman, when speaking on the occasion of his appointment as president of the American-Soviet Trade and Economic Council, which includes 266 leading corporations and firms of the USA and a number of foreign trade organizations of the Soviet Union.

He said that normalization and further development of mutually beneficial trade between the two states are an important aspect of Soviet-American relations. Speaking before members of the council, M. Forrestall expressed the hope that the forthcoming meeting of the council in Moscow and meetings with officials will play an important part in the development of commercial, economic, scientific and technical ties between the USSR and USA. For his part, the council's president promised to make every effort toward achieving this aim.

AMERICA-RUSSIA INSTITUTE HEAD DISCUSSES VISIT TO USSR

LD041416Y Moscow TASS in English 1315 GMT 4 Sep 78 LD

[Text] Vilnius, September 4, TASS--"The signing and ratification of a SALT agreement of goodwill," a TASS correspondent was told by Ksavera Karosene, a prominent public figure of the United States, president of the America-Russia Institute in San Francisco. Together with other representatives of U.S. progressive organizations, Karosene is currently on a visit in the Soviet Union at the invitation of the Union of Soviet Friendship Societies. Karosene left her native Lithuania together with her parents at the age of five.

The guest noted that regrettably there are influential opponents of such an agreement in America. This is seen in particular from the recent arrest in California of three thousand persons who took part in a demonstration for the signing of a SALT agreement at the earliest date and against the plans of the Carter administration for the production of the neutron weapon.

"The right of citizens to express their will was crudely flouted also in many other cities, where mass demonstrations were held in August," she said.

Karosene stressed the growing political activity of American women, who are stepping up the struggle for the elimination of racial discrimination and for the equal rights of women. It is paradoxical, the guest said, that in such a civilized country as the USA, women are still considered to be second-grade citizens. A law on the equality of women is necessary, but it has not been passed so far. Apparently, some people stand to gain from the lack of a law protecting the interests of working women.

Ksavera Karosene noted that her stay in the Soviet Union helped her to learn the truth about the rights of Soviet people, which are guaranteed for them by the Soviet Constitution. Many Americans, she said, have a wrong idea of the USSR, created by the propaganda ballyhoo about the alleged persecution of different-minded people in the USSR and the activity of dissidents.

Karosene said in conclusion that the visit to the USSR was very useful for her. It will help her institute to familiarize Americans with the life of Soviet people objectively and widely.

LATIN AMERICAN DICTATORS SURVIVE BECAUSE OF U.S. AID

LD280930Y Moscow TASS in English 0750 GMT 28 Aug 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, August 28, TASS--The anti-people dictatorial regimes in a number of Latin American countries continue to exist only because they have all-round aid, especially military aid, from the USA, PRAVDA writes today.

The newspaper says that the USA helps the dictators not only with arms supplies. In Nicaragua, for instance, punitive troops are trained by American officers with "combat experience" in Vietnam while U.S. Air Force planes even take part in anti-guerrilla operations. In Nicaragua, the newspaper goes on, Somoza's reactionary regime ruthlessly suppresses any manifestations of discontent with the existing system executions by firing squad, tortures, humiliation of human dignity have become usual things in the country. Guerrilla actions and the national strike, which is supported by ever new sections of the working people, are a response to the violation of elementary human rights in the country.

There are also crying violations of human rights in some other Latin American countries. All the world knows about the crimes of Pinochet's junta in Chile, the recent shooting of a peasant deputation in Guatemala and other facts of this kind.

The USA, PRAVDA goes on, is giving active support to the anti-people regimes because they loyally serve the interests of American monopolies. Some time ago, the President of Venezuela C. Andres Perez, said in Caracas that there is an alarming connection between foreign capital investments and violations of human rights. He accused the transnational corporations of interfering in the internal affairs of Latin American peoples and the peoples of other continents. The fact that among Washington's allies are such butchers as Somoza and Pinochet speaks for itself, PRAVDA says. The Human Rights Commission of the World Peace Council which met recently in Costa Rica, demanded that the United States withdraw its support of the reactionary regimes. A well-justified demand, PRAVDA says.

LABOR DAY PROMPTS EXAMINATION OF FREE-ENTERPRISE SYSTEM

LD041400Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1008 GMT 4 Sep 78 LD

[Text] Washington, TASS--Labor Day is marked in the United States on the first Monday in September. This holiday gives Washington officials a convenient reason for singing the praises of the "free enterprise" system for calling the working people to conclude "a class peace." For American working people this day is a mean reminder of the load of problems burdening the shoulders of the simple folk.

In an interview given on the holiday to a group of correspondents of the trade union press, President J. Carter admitted that both inflation and unemployment--which at present affect about 6 million Americans--are acute. He said that food prices in the United States went up by 18.5 percent in the first half of this year alone. In particular, the President tried to explain the sharp rise in inflation by an ever growing U.S. dependence on imported oil. He said that deliveries of foreign oil have increased by 800 percent in the past 6 years. If 1972 cost the United States $4.7 billion, then last year their cost amounted to as much as $42 billion.

The present administration's policy, which in practice has failed to keep a single promise stated before the presidential elections, has brought about deep disillusionment among rank-and-file Americans. "Big business" has managed to kill the bill on the extension of trade union rights. The Civil Service reform which has been carried out leaves the ban on state employees' political activities untouched. Under the pretext of struggle with inflation the government reduces expenditure on social needs at a time when huge sums are being assigned for military purposes. This nonproductive expenditure redoubles the economic difficulties that the country faces. Most American economists are unanimous in forecasting an aggravation of economic difficulties next year. The working people have to stand up for their rights which are under the onslaught of authorities and entrepreneurs. They have to wage a persistent struggle for them. Thus, the official statistics show that there were 810 strikes in the United States in July, and 338,000 people took part in them.

KORIONOV CRITICIZES CHINA'S 'HEGEMONIC COURSE'

LD051900Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1230 GMT 5 Sep 78 LD

[Talk by Vitaliy Germanovich Korionov, PRAVDA political observer, entitled "Peking's Hegemonic Course is a Threat to the Cause of Peace and Socialism"]

[Text] China's Maoist leadership's actions in the international arena are causing concern to all those who hold dear the cause of socialism, peace and freedom. There are significant grounds for this. As is stated in the document of the party's Central Committee in connection with the friendly meetings in Crimea in July and August this year between Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and the leaders of the fraternal parties of the socialist countries, the CPSU Central Committee Politburo stresses that the actions of the present leaders of China are a serious threat to the cause of peace and socialism.

In pursuing a great power, hegemonic course, Peking is openly banking on fanning up international tension and is using every means possible to undermine the positions of the socialist comity, and of the revolutionary and liberating forces of modern times. The danger of this policy is increased by the fact that the Maoists mask their true designs with hypocritical phrases about adherence to peace, independence and the sovereignty of peoples.

In reality, the Chinese folk proverb: "Honey on the lips--a dagger in the heart" is fully applicable to this policy. To convince oneself of this, it is sufficient to glance at Peking's positions concerning the main questions of contemporary international life.

The problem of war and peace remains the most burning problem. The question of whether international relations will develop in the direction leading to a stable peace, or, to the contrary, in the direction of being precariously perched on the brink of war is being solved in the global struggle that is now taking place. The solution to this question depends, to an enormous extent, on the might and unity of forces which struggle against the imperialist policy of aggression and preparation for war. The Soviet Union and the socialist comity of peoples are the decisive factors among these forces.

What is the Chinese leadership's position regarding this question? [Word indistinct] it is obvious to everyone that rabid anti-Sovietism has become the foundation for Peking's foreign policy course. The Maoists' actions in the international arena are permeated by an unconcealed enmity for the birthplace of the October Revolution, for the Communist Party and the Soviet state and for our people.

Having cast aside all that once had formed the basis for the policy of the Chinese Communist Party and what, to this day, is held dear by true communists, workers and working people of China, the Maoist top echelon has conspired with anyone who is today--or could become tomorrow--an enemy of the land of the soviets, a rule of its policy.

The American wild men [beshenyye], the West German revanchists, NATO generals, Chilean fascists, reactionary Near East monarchs, sultans, shayks--it is with this whole assorted pack of enemies of progress that China's Maoist leadership seeks mutual understanding and friendship.

Such a course provides further proof of the fact that the Maoists have abandoned class positions for ones that are deeply hostile to socialism. What is this policy dictated by? First and foremost, it is dictated by the understanding in Peking of the fact that the Soviet Union represents a decisive force in the cause of preserving universal peace and that it is the main obstacle in the path of those who harbor annexationist and hegemonic plans.

Faithful to Lenin's behests, the Soviet Union, Comrade Brezhnev points out, has been and will always be an untiring champion of democratic rights, freedom and the independence of all peoples, a faithful ally of those who come out for the liquidation of any forms of colonial and national oppression and for a genuine equality of all nations.

But this means that he who, like the Chinese leaders, stirs up a struggle with the Soviet Union, does irreparable harm to the cause of universal peace and, in fact, turns out to be in the same camp as the imperialist aggressors and those who strangle the freedom of the peoples.

The foreign policy line of the PRC leaders is further determined by a nonacceptance of detente and of peaceful coexistence between states. Today, China is the only country in the world whose leaders constantly declare the inevitability of a world war.

Hua Kuo-feng, chairman of the Chinese Communist Party Central Committee and premier of the State Council, asserted at the last congress of the Chinese Communist Party: War is unavoidable. There can be no stable peace at all. China's military leaders are engageed in an open apology for war, stating that war is a completely normal phenomenon and that each generation ought to have its own war.

Teng Hsiao-ping, vice chairman of the State Council, stated: We should be ready to fight; we should proceed from a premise that war will break out soon--a large-scale war.

A large-scale war...Well, this is what they are dreaming of in Peking. Of course, it will be a war in which its leaders, as they say in China, will sit on the mountaintop and will not take part in the clash of the tigers in the valley.

Making the Soviet Union clash with the United States--this is the dream of the Peking provocateurs. However, the danger of their policy is not exhausted by incitement alone. Peking is preparing itself for war adventures on an ever-growing scale. The efforts of Chinese politicians to get hold of the NATO military arsenals; the intensive militarization of Chinese society and the modernization of the army; the de facto collusion with NATO, whose generals call China, for all to hear, the 16th member of that bloc, bear witness to this with glaring clarity.

The ruling Chinese top echelon regards the tactical formation of an alliance with imperialism as one of the prerequisites for the implementation of its great power, hegemonic designs. The designs did not appear today. Mao Tse-tung openly said that he bowed to those political and state leaders of China who bequeathed their descendants to draw resources from Europe and America in order to cross through five continents on which you will see how the yellow dragon's flags unfurl and dance in the wind.

In particular, the attempt to create a pan-Asian Maoist empire lies at the basis of these aspirations, and the first steps toward fulfilling them are coming true. Way back in August 1965, at Chinese Communist Party Central Committee Politburo session, Mao Tse-tung declared: We must, without fail, get Southeast Asia, including South Vietnam, Thailand, Burma, Malaysia and Singapore.

As is known, in order to implement their longings, Peking's leaders have already repeatedly resorted to an open use of force. This was so at China's borders with Burma, India and the Soviet Union. Let us also recall the fact that the present Chinese leaders have loudly proclaimed their territorial claims on practically all their neighbors: the USSR, the Mongolian People's Republic, the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, the DPRK and India, and also on the Philippines, Japan and some other countries. For decades one of imperialism's main aims was to push back socialism and to weaken the positions of the socialist countries. Now China's leaders, too, have joined in this criminal dance.

Let us, for example, take Peking's policy toward Vietnam. During the years when the heroic Vietnamese people defended their socialist gains, rebuffing the onslaught of the Pentagon's hordes, the Chinese leaders did not spare any words in order to assure everyone that they were Vietnam's sincere and reliable friends. However, quite a different policy was hidden behind the curtain of these lying phrases: The Maoists did all they could to make the Vietnamese patriots' struggle more difficult, to wear out Vietnam and bleed it dry in the prolonged war. In 1965, they refused to accept the proposal of the USSR and other socialist countries concerning a program of joint support for the Vietnamese people. Peking made all sorts of trouble for the Soviet Union, which extended to the struggling Vietnam wide, fraternal aid.

In 1971, Peking informed the Government of the United States of America, through Edgar Snow, the Washington emissary, that the Chinese would start fighting only if the Americans attacked them. In essence, this was direct encouragement for Washington in its aggression against Vietnam. However, the calculations of the Peking provocateurs were a fiasco as the aggressor suffered defeat. From the flames of the liberation war there emerged a unified, socialist, strengthened Vietnam. This irritates those who dream of setting up China's hegemony in the Southeast Asia.

Well, now the false mask of being a friend has been finally cast aside. Instead of helping this socialist country, which had gone through a most difficult war and is now going through a difficult period of restoration, the PRC's leaders are attempting to stab the freedom-loving people in the back. They are behind the leaders of Kampuchea who have unleashed military operations against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. They have organized political, border and other provocations, one after another, against Vietnam. In particular, thousands of Hoa people are being used for this purpose.

The recent period, writes the Vietnamese paper NHAN DAN, is, as far as Peking is concerned, merely a temporary phase in the dirty, adventurist path leading Peking to expansionism and hegemonism.

At the same time, the Chinese leadership is engaged in a frenzied campaign of slander against Cuba, the first socialist country in the Western Hemisphere. Czechoslovakia's RUDE PRAVO notes, in connection with that: the reasons for such hatred and open malice for these two socialist countries are obvious: both Vietnam and Cuba resolutely refused to be Peking's obedient tools; they stand firm on internationalistic positions.

Or, let us turn to the Maoists' policy on the Balkan flank of the socialist world. As is known, in the past the Balkans enjoyed a murky reputation of being Europe's powderkeg. As a result of the formation of socialist states here, this region acquired peaceful, calm and stable borders. Provocateurs from Peking also strive to implement their perfidious designs here.

The recently completed visit of Hua Kuo-feng to Romania and Yugoslavia has attracted the serious attention of world public opinion. This visit confirmed that the Maoists' dangerous activity is directed against the whole of world socialism since it aims at undermining the ideological-political unity of the socialist community countries and trying to sow the seeds of discord among the socialist countries. Peking would clearly like to turn the Balkans into an object of its intrigues.

The fact that Albania has, in the end, refused to submit to the Peking diktat, also bears witness to Peking's dark designs in this part of the world. It was announced in Tirana that back in 1968 China had made an offer to Albania to conclude a military alliance with Yugoslavia and Romania. The Albanian side declined this proposal, having termed it as anti-Albanian and counterrevolutionary.

The collapse of the imperialistic colonial system was one of the outstanding results of the defeat of fascism, in which the Soviet people had played the decisive role. Some 100 young, national states entered the international arena. The future of this by far the greater part of mankind depends to an enormous extent upon the cooperation and friendship of the developing countries with their natural ally--the socialist community. Imperialism would very much like to undermine this alliance. Here, in the Maoists, it has acquired an assistant. Their shameful role during the years of the Angolan people's liberation, the anti-imperialist struggle, is known. During that time, Chinese arms flowed endlessly into Angola--not for the patriots but for UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] and FLNA [National Front for the Liberation of Angola] bands who were there as mercenaries of international colonialism. Here, too, the Chinese leaders turned out to be in the same camp as the CIA, the South African racists and other stranglers.

This was so in Zimbabwe, in Namibia and also during the recent armed interference of some NATO countries in Zaire's affairs. I recall that Maoists were on the side of the forces which tried their best to hamper the birth of the independent state of Bangladesh. At one stage they unleashed a war with India, and they do not conceal their hostile attitude to the treaty of peace, friendship and cooperation between the USSR and India, in as much as such a treaty serves the cause of peace in Asia and the whole world.

They took up arms [opolchatsya] against the Ethiopian revolution and received the victory of the April revolution in Afghanistan with hostility. In the Near East the Maoists actively support the policy of the United States of America and Israel who trample underfoot the vital interests of the Arab peoples.

Hua Kuo-feng's visit to Iran showed that the Maoists would also like to gain a foothold for their hegemonic, great power policy in the central east [sredniy vostok].

Finally, the events of the recent period point to the fact that the Maoists are also trying to enter the nonalined countries' movement through the back door in order to start subversive, destructive work here.

There mimicry reaches a stage in which they are feigning to be an ally of the nonalined movement. In reality, the facts bear witness to this: Everywhere, where imperialism encroaches on the interests of the nonalined countries, Peking invariably turns out to be in the very same camp.

Its actions in the nonalined movement are also clearly directed at weakening the influence of the truly progressive forces in this movement, thus reckoning on making it easier for itself to implement its great power aspirations.

Thus, the Maoists have turned out to be an enemy of the socialist comity, the national liberation movement and universal peace. The Chinese leadership's policy undoubtedly runs counter to the vital national interests of the Chinese people. It is a policy which is hostile to the vital interests of all peoples.

All this requires vigilance as far as Peking's chauvinist, great power course is concerned. It also requires vigilance as far as actions which--directly or indirectly--further the pursuance of this course.

Having embarked upon the path of chauvinism and great power politics and nurturing madcap plans to seize [ovladet] the whole world, the Chinese leadership is pursuing a policy which, in essence, challenges the forces of socialism and progress and all freedom-loving peoples. It is in this that the Achilles Heel of Maoist adventurism lies. It is in this that prerequisites for its unavoidable defeat lie.

SINO-JAPANESE TREATY BASIS OF MILITARY ALLIANCE

OW022200Y Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Mandarin to Southeast Asia 1000 GMT 31 Aug 78 OW

[Charlin commentary]

[Excerpts] It is well-known that the Soviet Union declared war against Japan to fulfill the commitment it had made to its allies. The decision was made at the Crimea summit meeting of Soviet, U.S. and British government leaders in Yalta in February 1945. The Soviet Union made decisive contributions to smashing militarist Japan and liberating China from foreign plunderers. This was a recognized fact. But recent events show that some people in Peking have short memories. For example, the KWANGMING DAILY wrote that it was China, not the Soviet Union, that defeated fascism and defended democracy and world civilization.

Peking seems to have forgotten the historic lesson. The ideal of at least the present Chinese leaders is to unite the whole world against the Soviet Union. However, the history of the past more than 60 years has proved that our country really aspires to peace and has made decisive contributions to the liberation of China and other Asian countries from foreign oppression.

In their anti-Soviet maneuvers, the first partner the Chinese leaders have chosen has turned out to be Japan, the same Japan that for many years oppressed and plundered the Chinese people. Of course, the signing of bilateral treaties is the right of any sovereign state. The question is what kind of a treaty this is. Chinese Vice Premier Teng Hsiao-ping hinted not long ago that the top level ruling clique in Peking regards the Sino-Japanese treaty under the guise of peace and friendship as the foundation of a Sino-Japanese military alliance. Furthermore, Teng Hsiao-ping said that Peking regards this treaty as a major link in its overall strategy to gang up with imperialism to oppose the socialist community in the world, the national liberation forces and peace and progress in any region of the world.

It is very obvious that this kind of alliance cannot but make the public in third countries uneasy. If the Chinese leaders succeed in carrying out their plans and turn that treaty into a military pact, peace in Asia and the world will be seriously threatened. Peking does not particularly conceal the fact that it is vigorously attempting to start a new war. This is why on the anniversary of the last day of World War II, all people who treasure peace in the world are anxiously watching the dangerous policy pursued by China's present leaders.

RCP EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE DISCUSSES ECONOMY, HUA VISIT

LD060803Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 3 Sep 78 p 4 LD

[TASS report: "RCP Central Committee Political Executive Committee Session"]

[Text] Bucharest, 2 September--An RCP Central Committee Political Executive Committee session has been held here and has examined a number of issues of internal economic development and also heard an information report from N. Ceausescu, general secretary of the RCP, on the visit paid to Romania by the Chinese delegation headed by Hua Kuo-feng.

GRISHIN, KAPITONOV CELEBRATE BULGARIAN ANNIVERSARY

LD052330Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 5 Sep 78 LD

[Text] Representatives of the working people of Moscow today solemnly noted the 34th anniversary of the socialist revolution in Bulgaria. In the presidium at the gathering were Grishin, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Moscow Gorkom; Kapitonov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; and other comrades. Also there was a delegation of the all-national committee for Bulgarian-Soviet friendship led by the committee's first deputy chairman Stanchev.

BREZHNEV SIGNS DECREE ON AWARD TO NEPSZABADSAG EDITOR

LD060328Y Moscow in Hungarian to Hungary 1800 GMT 5 Sep 78 LD

[Text] By a decree of the Supreme Soviet Presidium, Dezso Nemes, MSZMP Central Committee Politburo member and NEPSZABADSAG editor in chief, has been awarded the Order of the October Revolution on his 70th birthday for his merits shown in consolidating the fraternal cooperation between the Soviet and Hungarian people and for his (wide-ranging?) active participation in the international communist movement. The decree of the Supreme Soviet Presidium was signed by Leonid Brezhnev, chairman of the Presidium, and Ikhail Georgadze, secretary of the Presidium.

PRAVDA CITES NEPSZABADSAG ON HUNGARY'S FOREIGN POLICY LINES

For a 31 August Moscow PRAVDA in Russian article summarizing a Hungarian NEPSZABADSAG article entitled "Loyalty, Solidarity, Correctness" dealing with Hungarian foreign policy, see the Hungary section of the 6 September Eastern Europe DAILY REPORT.

NATO AUTUMN MANEUVERS ANOTHER ATTEMPT TO UNDERMINE DETENTE

LD060845Y Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 3 Sep 78 p 3 LD

[From the Col M. Ponomarev and V. Postnikov International Military-Political Review: "NATO: Militarist Demonstrations"]

[Text] The latest series of annual comprehensive maneuvers and exercises by the combined, multinational and national armed forces of the North Atlantic bloc countries begins tomorrow. The whole series has the code name "Autumn Forge-78."

The beginning of the exercise has been preceded by a broad propaganda campaign. In the intention of its organizers, it was supposed to manipulate the Western countries' public in an appropriate way and to justify the Atlanticists' new militarist actions in the people's eyes. The culmination of this campaign was probably the press conference staged in Oslo by American General A. Haig, NATO supreme allied commander Europe. Speaking to journalists he attempted to prove that the increase in the quantity and intensity of the exercises within the bloc framework at the present time is absolutely necessary so as to "meet the military threat posed by the Soviet Union and the Warsaw Pact."

It is well known that these statements are worth. Their purpose is to create a kind of propaganda screen to camouflage imperialist policy which runs counter to the aspirations of the peoples who are demanding lasting peace and termination of the arms race. This camouflage fools few people nowadays.

Turning directly to the "Autumn Forge-78" exercises it is perfectly obvious that from the political viewpoint they represent a deliberate militarist demonstration planned and prepared in NATO headquarters. The aim is to demonstrate to the Soviet Union and the other socialist states the North Atlantic bloc's military might, the NATO countries' "unity" and their readiness to act at a moment's notice against the community of socialist states. In other words, the Atlanticists would like to demonstrate once again their "strategy of deterrence," to exert psychological pressure on the USSR and the other Warsaw Pact members and at the same time to intimidate as powerfully as possible the population of their own countries with the notorious "threat from the east" so as to implement their antipopular schemes without obstruction.

This is conclusively confirmed by the purely military aspect of the "Autumn Forge" series of exercises. In terms of time they will not be confined to the current year and in terms of space they will cover an enormous territory from northern Norway to the eastern Mediterranean and will draw into their ambit hundreds of thousands of servicemen from 14 NATO countries, tens of thousands of tracked and wheeled vehicles, thousands of airplanes and helicopters and hundreds of ships. Take for example, the "Northern Wedding" NATO maneuvers which open this series. They will take place 4 through 19 September in the eastern Atlantic, the North Sea and the English Channel and then will be continued in Central Europe. According to Britain's THE SUNDAY TELEGRAPH, "Britain's defense against the Russians" will be particularly practiced in the exercises. With this aim British and American marines will attempt to "capture the Shetland Islands" (which would therefore be in the hands of the "Russians" by that time?). And the newspaper stresses that this is not merely a supposition made, so to speak, for training purposes but a reflection of the opinion of top officers from the Royal College of Defense who regard a "lightning attack on the Shetland Islands by the Russians as perfectly possible in the event of war."

As a result of such an attack, in their opinion, Norway would be isolated and neutralized and Britains' air defense would be paralyzed. There is no need to stress once again the false and purely provocative character of these fabrications against the USSR.

Judging by Western press reports, the organizers of the "Autumn Forge" exercises, as in past years, intend to check the combat capability of the NATO armed forces, to evaluate the level of operational and combat training of staffs and troops and the flying and marine training of air force and navy units and formations, to check once again the basic theses of the Atlantic strategy of "flexible response" and the concept of "forward borders" and to continue the development of a system for transferring the combined and national armed forces of the bloc countries from peacetime to wartime status. Great attention to studying the possibilities of reinforcing troops in European theaters of military operations through the transfer of units and formations of ground forces, air forces, and marines from the United States is proposed. In previous years Marines have not been involved in the "Autumn Forge" exercises on the scale on which they are now. It is now proposed to move at least four brigades to Europe.

U.S. Defense Secretary H. Brown recently announced the decision of J. Carter's administration to "emphasize the priority given to the defense and security of West Europe" by devoting "additional efforts" to achieving this aim. It is well known what kind of efforts. There are the decisions of the spring NATO Council session regarding the further buildup of armaments on a large scale--decisions adopted on the initiative of and under pressure from Washington--the approval of a record military budget by the American Congress and now the transformation of vast areas into firing ranges for a complex of more than 30 exercises and maneuvers in most of which the U.S. Armed Forces play the leading role.

The progressive international public rightly sees NATO's militarist actions as yet another attempt to undermine the positive trends in the development of events in the world arena. Under these conditions the conclusion drawn by the CPSU Central Committee Politburo in its consideration of the results of Comrade L.I. Brezhnev's Crimea meetings with the leaders of the fraternal parties and states sounds exceptionally topical. The CPSU Central Committee Politburo believes that "under contemporary conditions it is urgently necessary to oppose with the utmost resolution any steps which might undermine the detente progress and turn international development back to cold war times."

NATO INTELLIGENCE SERVICES AIM SUBVERSIVE ACTS AT USSR

LD0415417 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 31 Aug 78 p 3 LD

[V. Chernyavskiy article: "NATO's Secret Front: Espionage Departments in the Service of Imperialism"]

[Text] NATO. The tentacles of this imperialist alliance have embraced immense territories in Europe and North America, as well as in the waters of the Atlantic. For a long time it has been no secret--the imperialists declare it for all to hear--that all this zone is divided into theaters of war. There is no end to the maneuvers held in them, with the participation of all branches and categories of troops.

However, NATO strategists prefer to keep quiet about yet another front, where the struggle does not die down for a moment. This is NATO's secret front, deployed against the forces of peace, progress and socialism.

The secret services of imperialism pool their efforts which are aimed at organizing subversive activity against the Soviet Union and other socialist countries. This cooperation embraces all spheres of intelligence activity, including the joint use of agents and carrying out various kinds of subversive acts, including ideological sabotage. It began immediately after the victory of Great October and the formation of the Soviet state, but assumed a broader scale after World War II.

The main precondition for the formation of the imperialist spy consortium under the domination of Washington's intelligence service was the creation, during conditions of the "cold war," of a chain of aggressive military blocs, specifically NATO. A considerable role was also played in knocking together a secret front against the USSR and other socialist states by bilateral military treaties between the United States and other imperialist countries. Washington has enmeshed more than 40 countries in such agreements. This made it possible for Allen Dulles, for many years head of the CIA, to note in his book "The Art of Intelligence" as long ago as 1963: "A characteristic feature of our intelligence activity is increasing cooperation between the American intelligence services and the corresponding organs of all countries in the free world."

Immediately after the creation of the North Atlantic bloc in 1949 its participants pledged to coordinate their subversive actions against the socialist world. An increase in the number of such operations by NATO countries led to an improvement in the organizational forms of the espionage alliance. As early as 1956 the December NATO Council session adopted a decision to create a special commission for the planning and organization of subversive activity against the socialist states and for the exchange of intelligence information.

What does the intelligence machinery of the North Atlantic bloc look like now? According to facts published in the press, since late 1967 the leadership of all espionage acts has been concentrated in an intelligence operations center located in NATO headquarters in Evere (a suburb of Brussels). The exchange of secret information obtained by the espionage services of NATO countries is carried out within the framework of the so-called European Committee for Intelligence Liaison. Although representatives of NATO countries are appointed in turn to the post of chief of this committee every 2 years, the whole NATO espionage machinery is virtually controlled by representatives of American intelligence.

The headquarters of the supreme high commands in Europe and the Atlantic, the main command in the English Channel zone and the Canada-United States regional planning group all have intelligence agencies. Moreover there are intelligence sections at the headquarters of the main commands in the European theaters of war--the North European (Kolsos, Norway), Central European (Brunssum, Netherlands), and south European (Naples, Italy).

North Atlantic organs involved with carrying out subversive political and ideological acts within the framework of so-called "psychological warfare" are also connected with NATO's espionage machinery. Their activity is very closely interwoven and carried out in contact with NATO's purely intelligence organizations. The North Atlantic bloc's "psychological warfare" against the socialist countries is led by a committee of political advisers. The implementing of anticommunist propaganda is also entrusted to the political section of NATO headquarters in Evere. Subordinate to it are information and press services, the General Secretariat Political Directorate, and the section for counterpropaganda and the struggle against communism in Western Europe.

Finally, one more organ of NATO's secret front must be mentioned. This is Action Committee 46, which operates within the framework of NATO's security committee. Under its control, the Berlin weekly NBI reported, are both questions of subversives activity against socialist states, and police measures against communist and workers parties and democratic forces and the supporters of peace in NATO's own countries. The activity of Action Committee 46 is carried out in close contact with such NATO special services as the FBI (United States), the department to protect the constitution (FRG), Scotland Yard special branch (Britain), and so forth.

From the very start of the creation of the NATO espionage alliance until this very day, Washington has done everything to subordinate it entirely to its own aims. The U.S. special services have always tried to control the channels for the penetration of agents into socialist countries.

One way or another, American espionage centers use NATO intelligence organs as a convenient screen to mask the operations of their own secret services. In the event of possible failures it is more convenient, in the opinion of the leaders of Washington's secret services, to throw everything onto the "faceless" NATO intelligence service, rather than to directly jeopardize the CIA, the Defense Intelligence Agency (the Pentagon's intelligence service), the U.S. State Department's Intelligence and Research Office, or any other of the half-dozen main departments which, according to the American press, now form part of the U.S. espionage community.

The "fellows from the forests of Langley" (Langley is the Washington suburb where CIA headquarters is located--V.Ch.) are trying to make maximum use of their participation in the activity of NATO's espionage alliance to create their own ramified network of agents in NATO countries in order to have accurate and detailed information not only on socialist countries, but on their own allies, too.

The spearhead of all the subversive activity of NATO's espionage alliance is aimed against the Soviet Union and its Warsaw Pact allies. For instance, Johannes van Engeland, former professional intelligence worker, indicated in an interview that while he was working in NATO intelligence organs the Americans demanded that all the intelligence services of North Atlantic bloc countries send them "for summarization" weekly reports on the Soviet Union's ground, air and naval forces. These figures were then combined, checked and disseminated among the NATO partners in the form of Atlanticist surveys with conclusions by the CIA and the Defense Intelligence Agency.

No less dangerous is the "psychological warfare" which is waged by NATO special services, trying to "undermine from within" the socialist social system. For this purpose all possible ideological subversions are carried out and the subversive Radio Liberty and Radio Free Europe, emigre organizations and various kinds of renegades are used. Their criminal activity is paid for and directed by the special services of North Atlantic bloc countries.

The whole history of NATO's existence confirms that they regard "cloak and dagger knights" as an important instrument in the struggle against the USSR and its allies. In these conditions the task of maintaining a high level of vigilance and constant readiness to expose the intrigues of imperialist agents and render the subversive acts of the enemies of socialism harmless is particularly pressing.

UK PRIME MINISTER TO ANNOUNCE ELECTIONS SOON

LD0522111Y Moscow TASS in English 2144 GMT 5 Sep 78 LD

[Text] Brighton, September 5, TASS- Special TASS correspondent Aleksandr Stepanenko reports:

The Labour government is stepping up its election campaign. This is how local commentators sum up the speech of British Prime Minister James Callaghan at the meeting of the Trades Union Congress under way here.

The Labour government can remain in office for another year but, as the local press stresses, the uncertain position of the ruling party in Parliament where it does not have the absolute majority, and some invigoration of economy observed now might prompt Callaghan to appoint the parliamentary elections for autumn of the current year.

In his speech the prime minister did not announce the date of the next elections, stressing, nevertheless, that he would announce "very shortly" the date of the next British general elections.

James Callaghan admitted that British economy now experiences a difficult period: A number of its industries is stagnating, Britain has an unfavourable balance of trade and high unemployment rate. Trying to justify the government's activities, he said that these problems are typical for a number of capitalist countries. He said that there are over 16 million unemployed in Western countries now.

The prime minister tried to create the impression that Britain is on the threshold of overcoming economic difficulties. He said, specifically, that the purpose of Labourites is to use the expected proceeds from offshore oil development in the North Sea for ensuring complete employment, for raising the living standards of the British people and strengthening industry.

At the same time, the prime minister said that the Labour government intends to continue conducting its course at restricting wage increases for the working people, the policy which resulted in the fall off of real incomes of ordinary people in Britain in conditions of high rates of inflation. He said that the government firmly intends to establish in the next twelve months the five-percent ceiling to wage increases in factory and office workers.

Expressing satisfaction over the fact that a resolution of support for the Labour Party at the next parliamentary elections was tabled for consideration of the congress, the prime minister promised that the government will be exerting efforts for combatting unemployment, housing shortage, racism, for improvement of medical services. The Labour government made such promises also before the previous elections.

AUCCTU SENDS MESSAGE TO BRITISH TU CONGRESS

LD042257Y Moscow TASS in English 2135 GMT 4 Sep 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, September 5, TASS--The Central Council of the USSR Trade Unions attaches great importance to the development and strengthening of ties with the British Trade Union Congress, with all trade unions of Great Britain promoting understanding among the working people of the two countries.

The trade union council is confident that cooperation will go on developing for the good of democracy, social progress and world peace.

This is said in a telegramme sent by the USSR Central Council of Trade Unions to the 110th Congress of the British TUC.

FRG GOVERNMENT ISSUES DOCUMENT ON FOREIGN POLICY

LD051238Y Moscow TASS in English 1153 GMT 5 Sep 78 LD

[Text] Bonn, September 5, TASS--One of the main trends in the FRG's foreign policy "remains the continuation of the course for detente in relations with the East European neighbours with the aim of mutually beneficial cooperation."

A statement to this effect is contained in the report on the foreign policy activity of the FRG Government in the period since 1976 issued here by the press and information department of the Federal Government.

"The Federal Government, the document notes, is purposefully making efforts for a further improvement of relations with East European states. The political exchange of views with the governments of these countries, particularly in the form of regular consultations, has become permanent practice."

The document stresses the great significance of the official visit of General Secretary of the CPSU CC, President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Leonid Brezhnev to the FRG in May this year.

An outstanding event of the official visit along with the joint declaration and communique was the signing of the agreement on developing and deepening long-term cooperation between the USSR and the FRG in the field of economy and industry for a term of 25 years, the report says. The Soviet Union remains the biggest trade partner of the Federal Republic among the socialist states.

The section devoted to the Conference on European Security and Cooperation and the Belgrade meeting notes: "The process of multi-faceted detente started in 1975 by the Conference on European Security and Cooperation had an important follow-up in 1977 at the Belgrade meeting. The meeting will have a positive effect on detente."

At the same time, the document stresses the striving of the FRG Government "to make a contribution to further perfecting and developing the EEC, at further strengthening the Atlantic alliance."

PROCEEDINGS AT DANISH COMMUNIST PARTY PLENUM NOTED

LD041502Y Moscow TASS in English 1418 GMT 4 Sep 78 LD

[Text] Copenhagen, September 4, TASS--A plenary meeting of the Communist Party of Denmark was held here. Its participants discussed the situation in the country in connection with the forming of the coalition cabinet and outlined the tasks of the communists for the forthcoming period.

The plenum issued a statement strongly criticizing the government coalition of the Social Democratic Party with the bourgeois Venstre [Liberal] Party. The programme of the cabinet is directed at shifting all burdens of the crisis through which the country is going, onto the shoulders of common citizens. It will entail a growth of unemployment and a drop in the living standards of the population, the statement points out. Therefore, the forming of the cabinet met with wide protests from the working people and trade unions.

The plenum proposed specific measures of struggle against a drop in the real wage of the working people, for an increase in appropriations in the field of social security and education, for a cut in military spendings and for an effective taxation and housing policy.

PRAVDA ON DENMARK'S DOMESTIC PROBLEMS, TIES WITH USSR

LD301247 [Editorial Report LD] Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 27 August 1978 publishes on page 5 a 1,1000-word Yu. Kuznetsov Copenhagen dispatch entitled "Problems Intensifying." It deals with Denmarks' economic and political problems, criticizing the social democratic government's attempts to conclude a deal with "bourgeois" parties.

The dispatch includes the following paragraph: "People in Denmark have welcomed, in particular, such positive recent events as the visits made to the Soviet Union by a number of Danish ministers, including Foreign Minister K.B. Andersen who declared that the Danes are not interested in reducing commodity exchange with the USSR, including imports of Soviet goods. The minister advocated Denmark's further favorable and mutually advantageous cooperation with our country."

BREZHNEV CABLES CONGRATULATIONS TO POPE JOHN PAUL I

LD301840Y Moscow TASS in English 1813 GMT 30 Aug 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, August 30, TASS--Leonid Brezhnev addressed a telegram to John Paul I congratulating him on his election as head of the Roman Catholic Church and extending "wishes of success in the efforts for strengthening peace and international security, strengthening friendship and cooperation among nations."

PRAVDA VIEWS SPANISH PARTIES' STANDS ON DRAFT CONSTITUTION

LD051021Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 31 Aug 78 p 4 LD

[Correspondent V. Chernyshev dispatch: "A Hot Fall Lies Ahead"]

[Excerpts] Madrid--Spain has recently been experiencing a unique boom in public opinion polls. Dozens of offices are conducting polls on orders from government institutions and political organizations.

Nor is there any doubt that the political parties are taking the results of the public opinion polls into account in elaborating their strategy aimed at the period which will begin in the country with the adoption of the new constitution. The state's fundamental law under discussion in the Cortes (parliament) will close the page on four decades of Francoism, enshrine the changes which have taken place in Spain since the death of the Caudillo and open up prospects for further transformations.

Without waiting for the approval of the draft in the senate, the majority of parties have already defined their positions regarding the referendum. The leadership of the major parties--the Union of the Democratic Center [UCD], the Spanish Socialist Workers' Party [PSOE] and the Communist Party [PCE]--has stated that they will urge their supporters to say "yes" to the constitution. Many other parties not represented in parliament have taken the same position.

The rightwing popular alliance [AP] has stated that it will define its position regarding the referendum following the results of the senate debates. The extreme rightwing and leftwing parties and organizations--from Fascists to Maoists--are opposing the constitution.

Some parties are calling for abstention at the referendum.

The question of the possible outcome of the forthcoming referendum in the Basque land remains a complex one. The position of the Basque Nationalist Party [PNV] with respect to the draft constitution is of special significance. If the PNV decided to oppose the constitution at the referndum (that is, takes the same stand as extreme rightwing and leftwing elements), the newspaper INFORMACIONES writes, then this will mean that in the Basque land the fundamental law will be rejected, which could entail serious consequences. So far the PNV has not reached a final decision. Having examined the results of the discussion in the Congress of Deputies, the party noted the positive nature of a number of amendments to the draft constitution adopted and stated that the PNV "preserves the determination to continue the struggle in order to achieve, during further constitutional debates, the adoption of formulations acceptable to the Basque people." Some 12 leftwing Basque parties have issued a joint declaration that the new constitution is "unacceptable."

The national committee of the Basque Socialist Party has expressed itself in support of the constitution and advocated a policy of negotiations with other parties in order to avoid splitting the Basque people. The Basque Communist Party has also decided to urge the population to come out for the draft at the referendum, noting that "the path to progress, peace and freedom in the Basque land lies through mass approval of the constitution."

If the question of the position of the Basque land population remains open, throughout the country as a whole, virtually no one is in doubt as to the results of the referendum. The parties which now support the constitution collected almost 90 percent of the votes at the parliamentary elections last year which, as the newspapers note, foretells overwhelming support for the draft in the referendum.

Many politicians regard the question of the new constitution's adoption as virtually decided and are beginning to prepare actively for the campaigns which are expected after the referendum. It is primarily a case of municipal elections, of the replacement of the old Francoist apparatus in the organs of local administrations, which has become a serious retardant to the continuation of the democratization process in the country.

Meanwhile the issue of possible new parliamentary elections is being raised increasingly frequently in newspapers. A number of political parties believe that with the adoption of the constitution the Cortes will have fulfilled their mission as a constituent assembly and after the referendum new parliamentary elections should be held. For instance, the PSOE and the PNV adheres to this view. The rightwing AP also comes out for the dissolution of the Cortes and the holding of general elections but, in the opinion of this party's leaders, it is essential first to create some sort of "neutral" government which would organize and hold elections. The UCD categorically opposes any "neutral" cabinet whatever, seeing the AP's demand as an echo of the former regime and the rightwing leaders' desire come what may to hold leading posts even if only in a provisional, "neutral," cabinet. As for the holding of actual parliamentary elections, the UCD retains the right to express itself on this issue after the referendum.

The UCD "prefers not to reveal its strategy." But the press recently acquired the text of a confidential instruction which the UCD leadership had sent to its provincial committees. This circular stated that "elections will take place at the end of the year" and gave instructions of preparing for them.

The PSOE firmly adheres to the opinion that parliamentary elections must be held, considering it possible to continue them with the municipal elections, which the other political forces oppose. The socialists have already stated frequently that they will not join any government with other parties but will seek the formation of a "socialist cabinet."

In the PCE's opinion it can scarcely be expected that the correlation of political forces in parliament will alter substantially as a result of new elections or that any party will have a sufficient majority to determine single-handed the country's political and economic course. Therefore a policy of concord or cooperation in implementing a definite political and economic program will, the PCE notes, remain essential and for its implementation a government is needed which would rely on the broadest support of the people's masses Only a coalition government or at least a government which will implement a coalition program can count on this.

Thus a referendum on the draft constitution, local and possibly parliamentary elections and congresses and national conferences of a number of parties, including the First UCD Congress, are on Spain's agenda for the immediate future. In other words, a hot fall awaits Spain on the political plane.

SOVIET MEDIA CONTINUE ASSESSMENT OF CAMP DAVID TALKS

IZVESTIYA Criticizes Talks

LD282100Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1456 GMT 28 Aug 78 LD

[Text] Moscow--In connection with the fresh provocation in Lebanon by reactionary Lebanese forces, supported by the ruling circles of Tel Aviv, IZVESTIYA's commentator writes: "The exacerbation of the situation in Lebanon plays into the hands of those who would like to divert the attention of the international public from the suspicious fuss over the meeting at Camp David, where the United States will obviously be attempting to achieve a separate deal between As-Sadat and Begin."

"Israel is not concealing the fact that it intends to maintain at any cost the so-called 'security zone' controlled by rightwing forces in southern Lebanon--in other words, to permanently keep the gates open for invasion. On the one hand Tel Aviv is ever ready to deal a blow to the detachments of the Palestinian resistance movement, and on the other, strengthening the position of the rightwing Lebanese forces and supplying them with arms and munitions, Israel is striving to make them into its own 'fifth column' both in Lebanon and in the Near East as a whole. Finally, the chief goal being pursued by the Israeli military in whipping up tensions in Lebanon is to disguise the capitulatory course of Egyptian President as-Sadat."

The commentator goes on to say that "political observers are connecting the exacerbation of the Lebanese situation precisely with the approach of the new round of separate talks between Egypt and Israel under U.S. patronage. Observers in Beirut consider that in order to secure 'success' for the Camp David talks Tel Aviv is ready to soon undertake the gravest provocations against Lebanon, the inter-Arab security force and Palestinian organizations in that country. In this connection, the statement made on Sunday by M. Arens, chairman of the Knesset Foreign Affairs Committee, to the effect that the Camp David meeting 'does not paralyze Israel in relation to events in Lebanon', came as a frank threat. Clearly blackmailing the Arab public, Arens said that the Lebanese events should serve as a warning of what might take place throughout the Middle East in the event of failure of the talks between Carter, Begin and As-Sadat."

Vasilyev in 1 Sep PRAVDA

LD051459Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 1 Sep 78 p 5 LD

[Correspondent G. Vasilyev dispatch: "On the Threshold of the Camp David Meeting"]

[Text] Washington, 31 Aug--U.S. President J. Carter's talks with Egyptian President A. as-Sadat and Israeli Prime Minister M. Begin will begin 6 September, a day later than scheduled, at the President's retreat at Camp David, 110 km north of the U.S. capital. There is still about a week to go before the conference, but the press is already guessing about the kind of cards with which the participants will be sitting down at the table, and what can be expected from this major political game. Rumors that the White House is prepared to suggest, as an "extreme measure", a plan for stationing U.S. troops in the Near East to "guarantee peace" between the participants at the Egyptian-Israeli separate talks--rumors that have filtered through, or to be more precise, have been deliberately leaked to the press--have caused much excitement behind the scenes in the State Department and in newspaper editorial offices.

"Does the United States have such intentions?" This was one of the first questions put by correspondents to President Carter when he returned from vacation yesterday. At first the President avoided making a direct answer. This has not yet been decided, he said, various proposals are being discussed. But with his next sentence J. Carter in fact confirmed the persistent rumors. The proposal to station U.S. troops, he said, is not ruled out. However, the United States is "reluctant" to take this step.

Thus, in essence, there has been confirmation of what the Washington POST--not without some alarm--reported that day! One of the proposals that the U.S. side is taking to the Camp David talks "includes the creation of a U.S. Air Force base on the Sinai Peninsula and the stationing of U.S. troops on the West Bank of the Jordan." The newspaper endeavored to present this as a remote possibility and as an "extreme measure" Washington would resort to only if it failed to surmount a deadlock at the talks. But it has become even more obvious that the United States is really hatching extremely dangerous plans, the implementation of which would introduce a new element into the Near East situation that is fraught with the most serious international consequences.

As the CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR reports, one of the initiators of this proposal--Z. Brzezinski, the President's national security advisor--goes even further and is building plans for direct U.S. military intervention in the affairs of this explosive region. He is "studying a long-term idea" for the organization of a Near East military bloc with the participation of the United States, Israel and "moderate" (it should say "reactionary"--G.V.) Arab regimes. The bloc is to be modeled on NATO. A similar sounding name has already been thought up for it--METO (Middle East Treaty Organization).

But, the newspaper admits, "there will be very serious obstacles blocking the creation of this type of regional security force." Indeed, it is easy to guess at the reaction by the people of this region, who have come to know from their own experience the dangerous imperialist objectives being pursued in the Near East by the United States and its aggressive ally--Israel. No special imagination is needed to visualize how this proposal will be greeted in the United States as well. "Remembering the Vietnam war," the CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR writes, "many Americans will tremble at the very thought of U.S. troops being sent to that explosive region even as part of a Middle East peace settlement."

As the start of the Camp David conference draws closer, the uneasiness in the Washington political kitchen becomes more noticeable. Commentators close to the administration are alarmed that if the meeting in which the United States will be a direct participant in the negotiations fails, this would be a blow to the White House's prestige, which has already fallen to its lowest ebb. Meanwhile, hopes for a "fundamental improvement," as it is expressed here, are almost nonexistent. The newspapers recently published a statement by Israeli Prime Minister M. Begin to the effect that his delegation will arrive at the talks with the same notorious "peace plan" that was submitted almost 10 months ago to A. as-Sadat during his visit to Jerusalem. This means that the Tel Aviv "hawks" do not intend to change their position on either the territorial or the political question.

Acknowledging that the Egyptian-Israeli dialog has become deeply deadlocked, people here are trying to present matters in such a way as to suggest that the ultimate failure of the dialog would signify "a collapse of hopes for peace" in the Near East. However, th only thing in jeopardy is the political prestige of those who have gambled on a separate deal. A real and reliable path to lasting peace lies through a return to collective efforts by all interested sides.

Vasilyev in 5 Sep PRAVDA

LD0509385Y Moscow TASS in English 0825 GMT 5 Sep 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, September 5, TASS--Commenting on the coming Camp David meeting, PRAVDA Cairo correspondent Aleksey Vasilyev writes:

In almost 10 months of separate negotiations and contacts with Israel, Cairo has got nothing but bitterness of failures. It is obvious to all, the newspaper points out, that in case of any agreement the weaker party to the negotiations--Egypt--will have to pay for it. The "tough" stand, taken by the Egyptian side on the eve of the negotiations, ought to present things in a way that in Cairo they allegedly consider the Israeli demands exorbitant and, in case of a failure of the negotiations, they lay the entire responsibility beforehand on Israel and the United States.

The correspondent points out that the theme of the "last chance" of settlement within the framework of the Washington-Tel Aviv-Cairo triangle is reiterated in leading articles of the Cairo newspapers, which are trying to create the impression that "the whole world" will be in for a catastrophe if the Camp David meeting fails. The local press says nothing on possible alternatives to separate negotiations, making no mention of the mechanism of the Geneva conference, which is bound to elaborate a comprehensive and full settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Ponomarev Commentary

LD0517059Y Moscow TASS in English 1440 GMT 5 Sep 78 LD

["What Is Being Discussed at Camp David"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, September 5,TASS--TASS commentator Leonid Ponomarev writes:

Two key issues, without whose settlement there can be no lasting Middle East settlement, remain outside the tripartite meeting of U.S. President James Carter, Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat and Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin opening in Camp David today. They are: withdrawal of Israeli troops from all the Arab territories occupied by Israel in 1967, in conformity with Resolution 242 of the U.N. Security Council and recognition for the Arab people of Palestine of the right to selfdetermination and creation of its own state. There are no such proposals in the brief-cases of the participants in the meeting, who do not stint all sorts of demagogic statements. All three of them hope to use the meeting for selfish aims of home policy in their own countries and for the sake of strengthening their foreign policy and economic positions in the Middle East.

The Israeli stand remains unchanged: Tel Aviv has not given up its territorial claims on the Arab lands, and does not wish to withdraw from all the Arab territories captured by it, and at the same time denies the Palestinian Arabs the right to selfdetermination and their own statehood.

The Egyptian stand is undergoing changes only in the direction of further concessions to Israel and the United States. Instead of a comprehensive Middle East settlement at such a representative forum as the Geneva conference, Egypt comes out for a partial settlement, thus allowing deliberately an encroachment on the interests of other sides in the conflict, which could be represented in Geneva. In doing so, A. as-Sadat hopes that the occupied Sinai Peninsula will be returned to him for such a "good behavior".

As far as the United States is concerned, it has transformed from a "modest mediator" in the separate talks between Israel and Egypt into a full-fledged participant in the talks and even has its "own plan" for a Middle East settlement. The core of the plan, judging by the U.S. press reports, is the establishment of direct U.S. military presence in the Middle East, including the stationing of U.S. troops on the West Bank of the Jordan River. The point at issue is thus the replacement or complementing the Israeli occupation of the Arab (?territory) with U.S. occupation.

Apart from it, as the ASSOCIATED PRESS agency quotes the newspaper MA'ARIV, issued in Tel Aviv, as saying, Begin will offer the United States at Camp David port services at Haifa for the U.S. Sixth Mediterranean Fleet. It is also ready to grant the country, which has always supported Israeli expansionism, naval and air force facilities at Sharm ash-Shaykh. These proposals by Begin are viewed as part of a wider military agreement between Israel and the United States, which is called upon to give a certain semblance of "lawfulness" to U.S. military presence in the Middle East.

It follows from the above said that the main aim of the Camp David meeting is nothing else but giving the United States a foothold in the Middle East. Such plans undoubtedly bring in a new dangerous element into the situation in that area, as it is common knowledge that everywhere the U.S. troops and military bases are stationed today, they serve as a source of heightening tensions, confrontation and inter-state antagonisms. Quite naturally that U.S. presence in the Middle East will further aggravate the explosive situation there.

U.S. Press Skeptical About Talks

LD0520?6Y Moscow TASS in English 1945 GMT 5 Sep 78 LD

[Text] Washington, September 5, TASS--Separate Egyptian-Israeli talks are resuming in Camp David under the patronage of the U.S. President.

The U.S. press is highly sceptical in assessing their possible outcome. Even President J. Carter said before leaving for Camp David that he has no reason to be "over-optimistic." In the opinion of Ch. Moore, an observer of the New York TIMES, J. Carter will consider the talks successful, if thanks to them As-Sadat does not give up his "initiative." This "initiative," which started with the Egyptian president's visit to the occupied Jerusalem has caused a deep split in the Arab world and a toughening of the Israeli stance.

Washington, as seen from the press reports, will make maximum efforts at the talks to achieve some concrete results in the almost ten months old Egyptian-Israeli bargaining.

It is believed here, however, that achievement of any "compromise" between the parties is possibly only through further concessions from As-Sadat. It is said that the likeliest spheres of "compromise" can be adoption of a "milder" stand by the Egyptian president concerning the occupation of the West Bank of the Jordan River and the Gaza Strip, giving up of support for Syria's demands for restoration to it of the Israel-held Golan Heights and granting to Israel of "a free hand for action" in southern Lebanon.

U.S. officials assert that the United States has no plan of peaceful settlement of its own, but only has "separate suggestions" that can be made during the meeting. It is clear from information that leaked into the press that this refers to plans of stepping up the United States' military and political expansion in the Middle East through stationing U.S. troops in the West Bank of the Jordan River, in the Gaza Strip, in the Sinai Peninsula and in other areas. It is also planned to set up a regional military bloc that would include Israel, Egypt and a number of other reactionary Arab Middle Eastern regimes.

All this constitutes a serious threat to national independence of Arabs and also contradicts wide interests of world peace.

Paris, September 5, TASS--The newspaper L'AURORE reports today that Begin intends to propose to J. Carter at Camp David the following plan: The U.S. Sixth Fleet will be given the right to use the Israeli port of Haifa, and the Americans will receive at their disposal military facilities in the port of Sharm ash-Shaykh on the southern tip of the occupied Sinai Peninsula. And for this, in Begin's opinion, the U.S. President will have to gain certain concessions from As-Sadat.

The A.R.E. president cannot hope for Begin's "flexibility" at Camp David. In the course of last week, the Israeli prime minister kept saying that a full withdrawal of Israeli troops from all the occupied Arab territories and creation of an independent Palestinian state were out of the question.

Peace and Progress Commentary

LD060303Y Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Arabic 1630 GMT 5 Sep 78 LD

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] U.S. President Carter, Egyptian President as-Sadat and Israeli Prime Minister Begin are to meet at Camp David tomorrow. The Western press expresses the unanimous view that the meeting will represent a turning point in U.S. efforts to settle the Middle East crisis. While it is being alleged that the United States will exert pressure on both Egypt and Israel this time and not just on Egypt, as it used to do, it is essential to point out numerous facts that have been affirmed in the past and, it seems, will be affirmed in the future by U.S. activities.

First, regardless of the pressure Washington might be putting on Israel with the aim of moderating or easing its very stubborn and extreme attitudes, this pressure will never reach the point of insuring the interests of the Arab peoples and their legitimate rights. Representatives of the progressive democratic forces in the Middle East agree that basically the United States is not concerned with insuring these interests, which conflict not only with the Israeli occupation but also with the imperialist influence.

It follows that the discussion will be on an Israeli withdrawal but not withdrawal from all the occupied territories. Consequently, the talks are about the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, without serious reference to the interests of the primary party living there--the Palestinian Arab people and their legitimate representative, the PLO--who, more than any other people of the area, have endured the state of tension and wars, which has lasted more than 30 years.

In addition to all this, the question of the occupied Syrian territory, the Golan Heights, has not and will not come to the minds of those who intend to meet at Camp David.

Second, the series of concessions that the Egyptian regime has made--consequences that have caused terrible harm to the interests of the Arab people--still don't seem sufficient enough, at least as far as the United States is concerned. Consequently, despite appearances, As-Sadat will not receive less U.S. pressure than Begin, but instead much more.

Third, in the coming stage the United States will try to attract new parties toward its settlement plan. In this respect the United States is very actively cooperating with Saudi reactionaries to lessen President as-Sadat's isolation and insure that more than one Arab party agrees with or participates in the coming settlement in order to give it (?maximum) legitimacy.

Fourth, U.S. imperialism continually seeks to expand its interests in the Arab region. Day after day it reveals new proposals that are more and more frank and impudent. Under the cover of settling the Middle East crisis, these proposals seek to accomplish plans that will let U.S. imperialism maintain a firm grip on the course of future events in the Arab region and safeguard what it considers to be its vital and strategic interests.

The U.S. proposal to dispatch U.S. forces to the area on the pretext of safeguarding the security of the area is only a cover for the return of U.S. military bases to the Arab countries and for the future use of such bases to strike the liberation movements and maintain the fantastic profits made by the oil monopolies in the area.

Fifth, it is becoming clearer daily that U.S. imperialism is trying not only to settle differences between Arab reactionary leaders and Zionist Israel but also to create a new and dubious U.S.-directed alliance that links the imperialist influences together in a solid chain--an alliance embracing Egypt, Israel, Saudi Arabia, Iran and others. Under the guise of combating communism, the United States will be able to use this alliance against the Arab liberation movement and the national liberation movements in Africa. It appears that the coordinated activities that Egypt, Saudi Arabic and Israel have embarked upon and are carrying out against the peoples of Angola, Ethiopia, the PDRY and Zaire are only a prelude to the intentions of U.S. imperialism in this field.

Sixth, the settlement Washington is trying to implement is isolated from the peoples of the area and against their real interests. This settlement tries to remove the influence of the international progressive forces that are not very far away from the region. This has always been a principal aim of U.S. imperialist activities, thus imperialism's insistence on undermining all possibilities for holding the Geneva conference--which world public opinion has regarded as the more useful framework for achieving a just, stable and peaceful settlement of the Middle East crisis.

To put it briefly, the U.S. efforts, including the Camp David meeting, basically seek to insure U.S. interests while liquidating the interests of the Arab peoples as much as possible. It leads not to a lessening of tension but to an aggravation of it, which will push the area toward many dangers--not the least of which being the outbreak of new explosions harmful to the cause of world peace.

RADIO REFUTES ALLEGATION THAT USSR 'COVETS' ARAB OIL

LD042231Y Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1700 GMT 4 Sep 78 LD

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The Egyptian papers close to the leadership do not conceal their anxiety and perplexity over Tel Aviv's hardening of its expansionist policy. To avert attention from the failure of President as-Sadat's well known peace initiative, certain papers find nothing better to do than publish new fabrications about the role of the Soviet Union in the Middle East. For instance, AL-JUMHURIYAH tries to convince its readers that the Soviet union covets Arab oil because it will experience an oil shortage in the 1980's. Such forecasts have been denied in the past, and there is nothing to indicate that the Soviet Union will experience an oil shortage.

This matter is really nothing but an attempt by AL-JUMHURIYAH to distort the attitude of the Soviet Union--well known throughout the entire Arab world--toward the question of Arab oil. There is vast cooperation in oil matters between the Soviet Union and certain Arab oil-producing countries, but this cooperation is aimed at giving the Arabs control of their oil and the revenue derived from it. It is in this direction that Soviet cooperation with Syria, Iraq, Algeria and Libya is developing with great success. This cooperation helped these countries rid themselves of the domination by U.S. and other imperialist monopolies and use their oil to serve their social and economic progress.

Whom does AL-JUMHUIRYAH want to please with such fabrications? Isn't it trying to please U.S. monopolies, which do not like the equal and mutually beneficial Soviet-Arab cooperation in oil matters? It appears that this is the case, particularly since U.S. intelligence, as admitted by AL-JUMHURIYAH itself, is the source of this lie.

PALESTINIAN MAGAZINE PRAISES RECENT FATAH VISIT TO MOSCOW

LD052128Y Moscow TASS in English 1721 GMT 5 Sep 78 LD

[Text] Beirut, September 5, TASS--The recent visit by a Fatah delegation to the Soviet Union was a success, member of the Fatah organisation's leadership Abu Ayad said in an interview to the magazine FALASTIN ATH-THAWRAH. The Soviet-Palestinian talk in Moscow demonstrated the coincidence of our viewpoints on all questions under discussion. We saw for ourselves, he stressed, that the Soviet Union (?consistently) and firmly comes out on the side of the Arab Palestinian people and supports the PLO as the lawful representative of Palestinians. Soviet leaders expressed support for the struggle of the member-countries of the Arab "Front of Steadfastness and Confrontation" in the light of the dangerous development of events in the Middle East. Speaking of the situation in Lebanon Abu Ayad stressed that right-wing Christian forces in Lebanon are closely connected with Israel. Tel Aviv is gambling on the "Lebanese Front" with the aim of striking a blow at the national patriotic forces and the Palestinian resistance movement. According to a plan drawn up by the Israelis and conservatives it is intended, at the first stage, to unleash extensive combat operations against the inter-Arab peace-keeping force in Lebanon and achieve their withdrawal from the country, and after that to tackle the ultimate aim--to liquidate the national patriotic forces and the Palestine resistance movement. But the national patriotic forces of Lebanon are capable of frustrating this plan in alliance with those who stand for the preservation of the country's unity and Arabism, and with the support of the Palestinian resistance movement and the inter-Arab force. We are against the separate meeting in Camp David in principle, Abu Ayad said in conclusion. We hold that the meeting in Camp David is (?a further) attempt by the United States to support As-Sadat and his notorious "initiative". Without the Soviet Union's participation, he stressed, no settlement of the crisis in the Middle East can be successful and durable.

SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA INTERVIEWS LEBANESE OFFICIAL

LD251016Y Moscow TASS in English 0840 GMT 25 Aug 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, August 25, TASS--Armed provocations now staged by reaction that is backed by Israel are aimed at splitting Lebanon on a confessional [as received] basis and at establishment of complete rule of the right-wing forces over a part of the country's territory, Muhsin Ibrahim, the general secretary of the Central Committee of the National Patriotic Forces of Lebanon, said in an interview of the Beirut correspondent of SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA.

"It is quite clear that the reactionary forces now launched a premeditated vicious campaign against the inter-Arab forces," Muhsin Ibrahim said. The purpose of reaction is to create such conditions in the country that further stay of inter-Arab forces should become impossible and that they should be unable to implement the important task of consolidating internal security. This is, specifically, for what Camille Sham'un, one of the leaders of the right-wing forces, declared openly. But these treacherous plans are opposed by strong truly patriotic forces uniting representatives of different sections of Lebanese society that are fighting under the slogan of the country's unity, Arabism and democratic development.

EGYPTIAN PARTY REJECTS DOCTRINE OF 'DEMOCRATIC SOCIALISM'

LD021100Y Moscow TASS in English 1016 GMT 2 Sep 78 LD

[Text] Cairo, September 2, TASS--The National Progressive (left) Party of the A.R.E. has turned down the doctrine of so-called "democratic socialism" which the authorities are now trying to substitute for the provisions of the program documents of the Egyptian revolution of 1952.

In a memorandum addressed to M. Khalil, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Arab Socialist Union, the party leadership stressed that this document, which formulates the principles of a new official doctrine, is full of factual mistakes, contradictions, and wrong conclusions. The memorandum calls attention to the fact that the problem of liberation of the occupied Arab territories is not seen by the authors of the doctrine as the most important one for Egypt.

One of the reasons for this critical statement by the left party was that the present leadership of the A.R.E. intends to impose so-called "democratic socialism" on the Egyptian parties and political forces as the only ideology compulsory to all of them.

FOREIGN BANKS CONTRIBUTE LITTLE TO EGYPT'S DEVELOPMENT

LD021058Y Moscow TASS in English 1020 GMT 2 Sep 78 LD

[Text] Cairo, September 2, TASS--Egypt's "open-door" policy, permitting the operation of foreign banks in Egypt, is causing considerable damage to the national economy. In its report the Central Bank of the A.R.E. admits that foreign banks have failed to make any appreciable contribution to financing developing projects. Nor have they attracted capital from the international money market into the Egyptian economy.

On the other hand, they succeeded in persuading skillful local-bank employees to quit these bank and take jobs with foreign banks, and imposed stiff and wasteful competition on Egyptian financial organizations. As to the profits the foreign financiers make in Egypt, they take care to transfer them abroad as soon as possible. In the last two years, for instance, such transfers of profits totalled 168 million Egyptian pounds.

EGYPTIAN ECONOMIST SCORES AS-SADAT'S OPEN DOOR POLICY

LD052306Y Moscow TASS in English 1928 GMT 5 Sep 78 LD

[Text] Cairo, September 5, TASS--Cairo's "open door" policy, which has given full freedom of action to private capital, is having an adverse effect on the country's economic developments. This conclusion is made by 'Abd [name indistinct] Ramadan, the noted Egyptian economist, in a study published in the Cairo journal ROSE AL-YUSUF.

The Egyptian big bourgeoisie which has received unprecedented privileges in the financial and economic fields, he says, invests its capital not in the spheres of material production. It turns to the sphere of export and imports deals, trade and operations involving immovable property as a way of making quick money. As a result, A. Ramadan says, Egypt has become a market for Western goods, which makes it dependent on foreign monopolies.

This tends to weaken the state sector of the national economy and increase prices.

Turning to the question of "free zones," in which no custom duties are charged on imported goods, A. Ramadan says that such zones were conceived as a means of stimulating the growth of the Egyptian industry. But the local bourgeoisie used this opportunity exclusively for trading profitably in consumer goods.

In the sphere of housing construction, A. Ramadan writes, land is bought and sold chiefly for speculative purposes. As a result, land prices have made a dramatic leap. Private capitalists are building luxury apartments inaccessible to common people, instead of building homes to help resolve an acute housing crisis.

Such activity by the Egyptian bourgeoisie, A. Ramadan stresses, is contrary to national interests.

ANTIGOVERNMENT RIOTS, DEMONSTRATIONS CONTINUE IN IRAN

LD041336Y Moscow TASS in English 1217 GMT 4 Sep 78 LD

[Text] Tehran, September 4, TASS--Rioting and demonstrations are continuing all over Iran. According to the local press reports, the Iranian capital has been a scene of major antigovernment actions during the last two days.

A tense situation remains in the city. Tens of thousands of people went out into the streets of Tehran yesterday. The police and security forces used teargas and fired into the air. In answer, as the newspaper KAYHAN writes, the demonstrators chanted antigovernment slogans, smashed banks and restaurants. The newspaper noted that eleven people were killed and more than one hundred demonstrators were arrested in clashes between the demonstrators and the police in the country during the last few days.

Further Report

LD052210Y Moscow TASS in English 1515 GMT 5 Sep 78 LD

[Text] Tehran, September 5, TASS--Hundreds of thousands of people took part yesterday in mass demonstrations, arranged by the opposition in different towns of Iran. Their participants carried slogans calling for restoration of the provisions of the constitution, the release of all political prisoners. The biggest of these demonstrations has been held in Iran's capital, and was of a peaceful character. Though heavily armed army and police units patrolled streets and squares, the government did not dare to use them to disperse the demonstrators. According to the newspaper AYANDEGAN, the demonstrators, more than 100,000 people, carried streamers urging the soldiers to give up violence. Women and children took part in the demonstrations.

But in other towns, the newspaper KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL reports, there were clashes between police, soldiers and demonstrators. In the Elam and Kerej towns seven persons were killed, with two policemen among them. 30 persons were injured.

TASS REPORTS END OF CHAIRMAN HUA'S VISIT TO IRAN

LD011555Y Moscow TASS in English 1521 GMT 1 Sep 78 LD

[Text] Tehran, September 1, TASS--Negotiations between Hua Kuo-feng and the shah of Iran ended here today.

Neither of the sides published reports on the topics discussed at the negotiations. There is no final communique either.

Nevertheless, the UPI agency asserts that questions discussed included strategic and political factors of the situation in the Persian Gulf area, economic and scientific-technical cooperation.

Hua Kuo-feng has left for Peking by air.

FRIENDSHIP OFFICIAL PRAISES RELATIONS WITH MOROCCO

LD051648Y Moscow TASS in English 1417 GMT 5 Sep 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, September 5, TASS--The Soviet Union builds its relations with Morocco on the basis of the principles of peaceful coexistence, respect for sovereignty, non-interference into each other's internal affairs and mutual benefit. This has been stated by Dr Vera Moskovchenko, member of the board of the USSR-Morocco Society. She has given an interview to a TASS correspondent on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the USSR and Morocco, which is being marked these days.

Speaking at a dinner in honour of Morocco's Prime Minister Ahmed Osman during his March visit to the USSR, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR Aleksey Kosygin noted that "over these years we have managed to resolve a very important objective--to lay the foundation on which it is possible to build many-sided links and friendly cooperation".

Economic and technical cooperation holds an important place in Soviet-Moroccan relations, Vera Moskovchenko said. Over the period of 20 years Moroccan and Soviet organizations have done much in hydroengineering construction, energetics and geological prospecting work. A long-term agreement on cooperation in the sphere of phosphates, which is righteously called "a contract of the century", signed in Moscow in March, envisages realization of a joint project in the development of deposits in Morocco. Realization of the project will give a fresh impetus to consolidation of the Moroccan economy, to expansion of one of its leading branches. As payment for the credits granted, the Soviet Union will be supplied with large quantities of phosphates for agriculture.

Cultural links between the two countries are successfully developing. The USSR and Morocco are exchanging artistic companies, exhibitions, sport delegations.

The USSR-Morocco Friendship Society is engaged in an extensive work in expanding Soviet-Moroccan relations. The members of the society familiarize Soviet people with life, history and culture of Morocco, the successes of that country in the years of its independent existence.

GREEK FOREIGN MINISTER RALLIS CONTINUES VISIT TO USSR

Kosygin Receives Rallis

LD051726Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1700 GMT 5 Sep 78 LD

[Text] Aleksey Nikolayevich Kosygin, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, today in the Kremlin received Rallis, Greek foreign minister, who is in the Soviet Union on an official visit. The latter conveyed to Kosygin a message from Prime Minister Karamanlis.

In the course of the conversation, both sides expressed satisfaction over the state of the relations existing between the USSR and Greece. In addition, the joint desire for further strengthening and broadening fruitful cooperation on a firm and mutually beneficial basis in various fields, in the interests of the Soviet and Greek peoples and of the consolidation of peace and security in Europe, was noted.

On behalf of the Soviet Government, Kosygin invited Greek Prime Minister Karamanlis to pay an official visit to the Soviet Union.

Demichev Meets With Rallis

LD051952Y Moscow TASS in English 1730 GMT 5 Sep 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, September 5 TASS--The USSR Minister of Culture Petr Demichev had a meeting today with the Greek Minister of Foreign Affairs Yeoryios Rallis.

Questions of further expanding and strengthening cooperation between the Soviet Union and Greece in the field of culture and art were discussed in the course of the conversation that passed in a businesslike and friendly atmosphere.

The Greek minister is on an official visit in the USSR.

Gromyko, Rallis Luncheon Toasts

LD052332Y Moscow TASS in English 2035 GMT 5 Sep 78 LD

["In A Friendly Atmosphere"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, September 5, TASS--Talks were held in Moscow between member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the USSR Andrey Gromyko and the Greek Minister of Foreign Affairs Yeoryios Rallis.

During the talk that passed in a friendly atmosphere views were exchanged on the state and prospects of development of Soviet-Greek relations in various fields. Special attention was given to the expansion of political ties.

Views were also exchanged on some topical international problems of mutual interest.

Andrey Gromyko held a luncheon in honour of the Greek foreign minister and speeches were exchanged at the luncheon.

Greeting the guest Andrey Gromyko said: Your visit is the first visit by a Greek foreign minister to my country and we express hope that it will serve the cause of further developing relations between the Soviet Union and Greece.

The peoples of our countries experience feelings of friendship and mutual respect of long standing. My people always valued the immortal masterpieces of culture that were created by Greeks in the hoary past and which do not cease to evoke the admiration of contemporaries. These friendly feelings strengthened still further when the Greek people struggled for its independence. Front-ranking people in Russia were on its side, on the side of its just and difficult struggle and made their contribution to it. We also remember that Greece was one of the first countries to recognize the young Soviet Republic.

Unfortunately, difficult moments also existed in our relations. But to our mutual satisfaction they are receding into the past. In conditions when the process of relaxation of tension remains the leading tendency of modern international relations, despite and contrary to the persistent attempts by definite forces to return the world to the state of tension, both sides are undertaking efforts to develop Soviet-Greek relations. This accords with the interests of the Soviet Union and Greece and the interests of peace in general.

We hold that big potentialities exist for the development of Soviet-Greek relations. We believe that you subscribe to a similar view. Whereas in a number of fields, and first of all trade, scientific-technical cooperation, shipping, cultural and scientific ties, we have substantially advanced, it must be said that much is yet to be done in the field of political relations. I believe you will agree with this as well. As to the Soviet Union, we want good relations, goodneighbourly relations to be established with Greece, we want a strengthening and expansion of mutual understanding in questions of international politics.

The Soviet Union, just as your country, wants the European Continent never again to serve as an arena of a new war, wants it to set an example of mutually advantageous cooperation of peoples in the interests of peace.

Europe, as it was said by Leonid Brezhnev, "has entered a fundamentally new epoch that differs cardinally from everything that existed in the past". The signing in Helsinki of the Final Act of the European Conference on Security and Cooperation became an undertaking to turn our continent from a seat of war into an arena of the cooperation of states.

Those who really want to prevent a new world war--and these forces today are impressive--know that it is impossible to achieve genuine peace without progress in the field of disarmament and ending the arms race. The Soviet position in questions of disarmament is precise and absolutely clear.

It is apt to stress once again that on agreement with other states the Soviet Union is prepared to limit, prohibit on a mutual basis any type of armament. It is only important for such a reduction and ban to be carried out by states on the basis of full mutuality. This applies in equal measure also to our known proposals concerning the Mediterranean area.

We regard the liquidation of the existing seats of tension around Cyprus and in the Middle East as the top priority task of strengthening peace and security in that area.

Tension in Cyprus exists for already quite some time. It is an open secret that outside interference is the source of this tension. We stand for a solution of this problem.

We stand for such a solution that would not damage the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Cyprus. On its part the Soviet Union is prepared to give every assistance in this.

We have outlined already more than once our principled position concerning the need of attaining a just peace in the Middle East. Here I would like to emphasize once again that a just settlement can be achieved only through the collective efforts of all interested sides within the framework of the Geneva peace conference. Separate experiments at the expense of the lawful interests of Arabs, whatever labels are attached to these experiments, do not constitute a road to peace in that area.

Such separate actions are an attempt to accomplish a collusion behind the back of the Arab peoples so as to frustrate the attainment of a genuine Middle East settlement. Such a policy is unrealistic, myopic and in the long run prospectless.

Greece and the Soviet Union have quite a number of close and coinciding elements in the approach to the solution of important problems of international life, to such a solution that would facilitate the strengthening of peace on earth. We would like mutual understanding in these questions to grow and the framework of cooperation to expand.

In his reply speech Yeoryios Rallis stressed the traditional nature of the ties between the peoples of the two countries. As it is confirmed by the archeologist's pickaxe, he said, these ties existed starting with the far off epoch of Alexander the Great. The interaction of our cultures continues since the times of Prince Vladimir and Ivan the Third. We remember also the support that was given to the Greek patriots who founded the society of struggle for the independence of Greece "Philiki Aetaireia".

I was very moved when I learned that being preserved in Odessa to this day is a house in which three founding members of this society had lived. Not a single Greek forgets the decisive contribution made by your country to the strengthening and preservation of the indepenence of present-day Greece. Every year we note your contribution by celebrating the anniversary of the Battle of Navarino. The Greek and Soviet peoples fought shoulder to shoulder for their freedom and independence during the most terrible war of our century.

The belonging of Greece to another social system, he went on, is not an obstacle to the development of good relations with the Soviet Union and other socialist states in all fields--political, economic, cultural, etc. The difference in the systems does not obstruct the development of friendly relations between our states. It is without prejudice that we are prepared to positively study all the Soviet Union's proposals. It is important for relations between our countries to be founded on strict observance of the United Nations Charter and the Helsinki Final Act, on principles of non-interference in each other's internal affairs.

Greece is a peace-loving country, the minister went on. For this reason it supports the principle of the peaceful settlement of international disputes and [word indistinct] consistently and persistently for the liquidation of the use of force and threat of force in international relations. We believe that a strict application of United Nations decisions is a contribution to the liquidation of many seats of tension, including to the solution of the Cyprus question. For this reason we support the efforts of the United Nations Organisation and regard them as a factor of peace and stability.

After positively assessing the results of the development of relations between the USSR and Greece during the past four years the minister said that this development showed an upward trend in all fields. We exchanged visits by representatives of our countries at various levels, including parliamentary delegations. We have started mutual consultations, expanded the framework of our agreements, and signed various new agreements, for example a long-term trade agreement.

We will sign tomorrow a consular convention and a cultural agreement and in the future also other agreements that are now being studied. All this leads to a further expansion of our bilateral relations in all fields of mutual interest.

The (?minister) voiced [words indistinct] that the present visit will become a new milestone and a new starting point in relations between Greece and the Soviet Union. I assure you, the minister said in conclusion, that the desire to develop relations with your country is not of a short-term nature. It is not only a desire of the government. It is based on the will of the Greek people and the political forces which represent this people.

Present at the luncheon from the Soviet side were Alternate Member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, Minister of Culture of the USSR Petr Demichev, Deputy Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers Vladimir Kirillin and other officials, and from the Greek side the Greek Ambassador in the USSR P. Kaloyeras and the persons accompanying the minister.

The luncheon passed in a friendly atmosphere.

Correspondent Views Visit

LD0514344Y Moscow in Greek to Greece 1900 GMT 4 Sep 78 LD

[Ivan Alekseyev commentary]

[Text] First, I would like to stress that the news concerning the first official visit to the USSR by a Greek foreign minister in the history of Soviet-Greek relations has aroused great interest among the Soviet public, which expresses the hope that Rallis' visit will be a serious step toward the further all-round development of Soviet-Greek relations and cooperation in diverse fields. This view, according to reports which have reached us, is also shared by the broad Greek public, and there are good reasons for this.

In recent years Soviet-Greek relations, reinforced by the traditional sentiments of friendship and trust between both peoples, have become considerably stronger and deeper. Trade [words indistinct] has increased, economic cooperation is evolving, cultural, tourist and sports ties have (?broadened), exchanges of trade union, youth, and women's delegations are becoming more and more frequent, as well as those of delegations of people in the cultural, scientific, and arts fields.

According to (?the consensus of opinion) personal contacts between state and public figures have also proved fruitful in recent years. Thus as a result of the exchange of visits by the Greek merchant marine minister and the Soviet minister of the marine fleet, Soviet-Greek agreements were signed on sea shipping and the abolition of double tariffs on air and sea routes, and agreed measures were taken to implement them to mutual advantage. The visit of the Soviet commercial delegation to Greece headed by the Soviet deputy foreign trade minister in April last year was marked by its success. As a result of the talks, a new long-term commercial agreement was signed, the importance of which is indicated by the fact that apart from the considerable broadening of commercial exchanges it also provides for the development of economic cooperation between the two countries.

The cooperation agreement between the chambers of commerce and industry of our countries, achieved as a result of an exchange of delegations from the two chambers, also contributes to the realization of the same objective. We should view the agreement on scientific and technological cooperation between the USSR and Greece signed in Athens in June last year the same way. As is known, prior to the signing of this agreement, an exchange of delegations of scientists and experts from the two countries took place.

The exchange of parliamentary delegations made a serious contribution to the development of Soviet-Greek relations. The Soviet people cordially welcomed the delegation from the Greek Parliament headed by its president, Mr Dimitrios Papaspyrou. The visit by the Greek deputies meant a restoration of relations between our two parliaments, relations which were suspended when the military junta was in power in Greece. The return visit this June by the delegation of the USSR Supreme Soviet led by Ivan Polyakov, as well as the visit by the Greek parliamentary delegation, contributed to the restoration of better mutual understanding and the consolidation of the cooperation between the countries and peoples.

We should view in the same light the meetings held by representatives of the foreign ministries of our countries, and their exchange of views on the most important international problems on whose solution depend the consolidation of peace, trust, and an atmosphere of good faith and cooperation in various parts of the world, first and foremost in such an important area as the Balkans and the Eastern Mediterranean.

Naturally, in our countries different views exist and there are different ways of solving this or that problem, but there can be no doubt that relations of trust and mutually advantageous cooperation are becoming increasingly stronger, as is the understanding that these relations should be strengthened in the interests of peace and international security, the deepening of the process of detente and the containment of the arms race. The USSR for its part has stood and still stands for the further all-round friendly cooperation and neighborly relations between our countries.

This policy of the development of Soviet-Greek relations was recently confirmed once again by Konstantin Chernenko, head of a CPSU delegation, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, and member of the CPSU Central Committee Secretariat, at the 10th Congress of the Communist Party of Greece. He said: Greece, like the USSR, signed the Final Act of the Helsinki conference. In my view, the provisions contained therein constitute precisely the solid base on which our relations could develop and strengthen.

Hailing the visit to the USSR by Greek Foreign Minister Mr Yeoryios Rallis, the Soviet people express the certainty that it will constitute an advantageous step toward the development and consolidation of an atmosphere of good will, mutual understanding, cooperation and neighborly relations.

NATO INTENTIONS IN EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN SUSPECT

LD0511597 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 29 Aug 78 p 3 LD

[TASS-attributed article by N. Yermakov: "NATO's Mediterranean 'Game'"]

[Text] Recently an illustrated Italian journal published a curious geographical map. It depicted Europe in three colors: the territory of the Warsaw Pact countries was red, the territory of the neutral countries was white, and that of NATO states was blue. [paragraph continues]

The author of the article to which the map was attached was mightily trying to convince readers that the Soviet Union and other socialist countries will attack their Western neighbors any day now, and the map described above was intended to visually confirm this thesis. However, despite the author's vain attempts, the unprejudiced reader formed a completely different impression from examining the map. On the map, "red Europe" looks completely peace-loving. But the blue part of the continent is completely covered with symbols indicating major NATO military bases and sites.

For many years such maps indicating military bases have gladdened the eyes of American "hawks" and NATO generals. Those who sit in NATO headquarters in Evere, a suburb of the Belgian capital, and in the offices of industrial companies believe the existence of American and NATO bases to be a guarantee of the internal stability of capitalism. So it is not without reason that one of the main tasks of the Pentagon and NATO has always been to acquire new bases. They show special interest in the Mediterranean region.

At the same time the political situation which has arisen in the Mediterranean in recent years "does not suit" NATO circles. As is known, in 1974 NATO's attempt to turn Cyprus into an immense unsinkable base, through which it would be possible to keep the Near East constantly in their sights, was wrecked. Moreover the Cyprus venture entailed a whole chain of diplomatic, military and propaganda defeats for NATO. Greece left the military section of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, and the activity of American bases on its territory was substantially restricted. American military bases in Turkey were closed.

Since then, NATO and U.S. policy in the Eastern Mediterranean has been aimed at restoring the positions lost after the failure of the Cyprus venture. To put it simply, Washington and NATO have been trying to bring Greece back into the North Atlantic Treaty Organization's military section, set relations with Turkey to rights, and resolve the question of their military bases in those two countries.

However, this was not an easy task, as it turned out. And not only because the two countries feel serious and justified distrust toward NATO and the White House. It must not be forgotten that Greece and Turkey, formally allies, have very serious differences, whose main source is Cyprus. Washington and NATO took the path of intimidating and disuniting these two countries, counting on achieving a twofold aim--dealing with countries which fear one another equally and are therefore compliant, and in the last analysis restoring their former undivided domination in both Athens and Ankara.

As yet it is hard to say how Washington's and NATO's game in the Eastern Mediterranean will end. According to some reports, signs have appeared in Athens of a softening of positions with respect to NATO, and the possibility is not excluded that Greece will revise its policy on the question of bases. At the same time it should be noted that that country has not forgotten that it owes the 7-year rule of the "black colonels" to Washington and NATO. It is not surprising that there is very serious opposition to a return to the North Atlantic bloc military organization. In Turkey they also remember the role played by their allies in the bloc, primarily the United States, in exacerbating the situation in the Eastern Mediterranean. Turkey also takes into account the fact that the United States tried by means of blackmail and unconcealed pressure to make Ankara depart from its independent line with regard to NATO. The lessons of history live long in the peoples' memory.

SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

LUSAKA CONFERENCE SUPPORTS 'LIBERATION' OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

LD052150Y Moscow in English to Africa 1630 GMT 5 Sep 78 LD

[Text] Last week the leaders of the five frontline states of Africa--Zambia, Tanzania, Mozambique, Angola and Botswana--held a conference in Lusaka. The conference was also attended by the leaders of the liberation movements in southern Africa. Attention centered on the situation in Rhodesia, where the Zimbabwe patriots are waging an armed struggle against the racist regime of Ian Smith. The African leaders discussed measures to counteract plans for a neocolonialist settlement in Rhodesia. Such plans are nurtured by the Western powers and South Africa. They are designed to protect the interests of the white minority and Western monopolies at the expense of the vital interests of the African people. The conference has unanimously reaffirmed the stand for intensifying the liberation struggle against the racist Smith regime, a struggle which should bring the Zimbabwe people real independence and the restoration of their violated rights.

At the same time the heads of frontline states stressed the need to convene at an early date a conference on Rhodesia with the participation of all sides concerned. And they urged observance of measures to exclude any discrimination or pressure there. The conference, they stated, can deal only with details of the unconditional transfer of power to the African majority.

The Zimbabwe Patriotic Front, which heads the struggle for freedom and independence, will be given every support. The Lusaka summit has made it clear that the racist regime has miscalculated in hoping that the show of force will intimidate the frontline countries and make them withdraw support from the Zimbabwe freedom fighters. On the contrary, the raids of the Rhodesia and South African military on the territory of independent neighboring countries has strengthened the determination of the frontline states to bring to a finish the cause of liberating all of southern Africa.

SOVIET DELEGATION MEETS WITH ACTING PRESIDENT OF KENYA

LD021812Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1158 GMT 3 Sep 78 LD

[Text] Nairobi, 2 September, TASS--Daniel Arap Moi, acting president of Kenya, received the Soviet state delegation headed by Anna-Mukhamed Klychev, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, which took part in the funeral ceremony of the president of Kenya, Jomo Kenyatta.

During the conversation that took place, D. Arap Moi expressed heartfelt gratitude to Leonid Brezhnev, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, for the condolences he expressed on the death of President Jomo Kenyatta. The Kenyan Government, he stated, would continue to pursue a course directed toward developing friendly relations with the Soviet Union.

MOI REAFFIRMS SUPPORT OF NONALINEMENT, 'LIBERATION'

LD012228Y Moscow TASS in English 2130 GMT 1 Sep 78 LD

[Text] Nairobi, September 1, TASS--A national KANU conference is called in Nairobi on October 6 in line with the charter of the Kenya African National Union (KANU) and the demands of the Constitution of the republic, to nominate the party's candidate for the presidency of the country.

This was disclosed today by acting head of state Daniel Arap Moi, making an address to the nation. The KANU leadership has been instructed to urgently carry out preparations for convocation of the conference. Having paid tribute to the late Jomo Kenyatta as liberator and father of the nation, Daniel Arap Moi has said that Kenya inherited from the late president unity, respect for life and legality, the foundation of political stability, economic and social development of the country. The best memory to the late father of the nation, he said, will be preservation and maintenance of these principles. The speaker urged all citizens of Kenya to put national interests above all other interests and to strengthen the spirit of unity, cooperation and tolerance. He urged the security forces and the army of the republic to preserve vigilance and to immediately give rebuff to any possible threat to internal peace and order.

Kenya's government, said Daniel Arap Moi, will continue respecting all international laws, treaties and conventions, will continue supporting the United Nations Organization, the Organization of African Unity and the non-alignment movement. We come out for regional cooperation and development of bilateral links. In particular, we back the principle of inviolability of frontiers and non-interference into other countries internal affairs, we call for an end to the arms race. Kenya has always been in the vanguard of the struggle of liberation of all colonial and oppressed peoples in the whole world, and it will not depart from its firm stand of struggle against racism.

ETHIOPIAN DEVELOPMENT PRAISED ON ANNIVERSARY OF REVOLUTION

LD042023Y Moscow in English to Africa 1630 GMT 4 Sep 78 LD

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] The events that took place in Ethiopia on 12 September 1974 were of significance without parallel in the 3,000 years of the country's history. The revolution of 1974 was a major victory for all progressive, anti-imperialist forces on the continent. The changes in Ethiopia are regarded on a par with another landmark in the African people's fight for freedom, the collapse of the Portuguese colonial empire.

In its very first official statement the revolutionary government declared Ethiopia's choice of socialist orientation. The 4 years since the country began to build a new life have confirmed that the program of revolutionary reforms worked out by its leadership were not just slogans designed to make political capital.

The public sector brought into being by the program of the national democratic revolution now accounts for 70 to 80 percent of the overall industrial production. State-owned farms grow stronger with every day and more farm cooperatives are being set up all the time. Apart from having to create material prerequisites for progress, the Ethiopian leaders face the formidable task of drawing the mass of people into public and political life, of awakening in them a sense of dignity and national pride, of making them politically conscious. National pride has more than once inspired the Ethiopian people to defend their independence against invaders.

Farmers' associations and city councils in Ethiopia are called upon to play an important role in rallying up the working people and shaping their outlook. These are completely new institutions as far as Ethiopia is concerned, and they have done well. They have helped to set up a united front of national patriotic force. What needs to be done now is set up a political party that the mass of workers and farmers could regard as their own. Ethiopian revolutionary leaders are sure that such a party will help the country to maintain and consolidate its revolutionary gains.

Basic changes have also taken place in Ethiopia's foreign policy. Their progressive character reveals itself above all in the intensification of Ethiopia's anti-imperialist course and in the effort toward closer cooperation with the socialist community. During the recent Somali aggression against Ethiopia the Ethiopian people were not alone. They had the support of the Soviet Union and of Socialist Cuba and this served to strengthen friendship between Ethiopia and these countries.

Four years is a short period in terms of history, but the progressive reforms carried out by the revolutionary leadership in Ethiopia during these 4 years are of cardinal importance. They show the determination of the country to attain the historic goals it has set before itself.

ETHIOPIAN ARMY 'LIBERATES' ERITREAN TOWN OF SABDERAT

LD031039Y Moscow TASS in English 0750 GMT 3 Sep 78 LD

[Text] Addis Ababa, September 3, TASS--As a result of successful offensive operations, units of the Ethiopian National Army yesterday liberated the town of Sabderat on the Sudanese border which served as a main transshipment base for separatist groupings in Eritrea. Two important [word indistinct] points near the town of Keren were also liberated. Large armaments and munition dumps and food stocks were situated there.

A communique of the National Revolutionary Operational Command circulated here says that separatists, receiving broad military and material assistance from imperialist powers and reactionary Arab regimes, are forced to retreat along all directions, sustaining heavy casualties and losing vast quantities of equipment.

IMPERIALIST METHODS IN AFRICA LIKE THOSE USED IN VIETNAM

LD012044Y Moscow in English to Africa 1330 GMT 1 Sep 78 LD

[Text] Vietnam is marking republic day. Perhaps no other country has suffered as much and no other nation has displayed such courage and heroism as Vietnam. For several decades its people waged a heroic struggle against the Japanese, the French and American colonialists. Here is comment from our observer Georgiy Tanov:

Vietnam and Africa are separated by thousands of kilometers. There are many specific conditions and differences in the development and history of these two regions but imperialist methods in Vietnam and in Africa differ only in scale and the sequence of the use of force. In the years of American intervention in Vietnam alone the aggressors used scores of millions of bombs, hundreds of millions of shells, mines and rockets. They wiped out scores of Vietnamese cities and burned down hundreds of villages.

In Africa, if we recall the colonial wars in Algeria and Angola, the aggression and provocations on the Horn of Africa and against the frontline African countries, these ominous figures are more modest but the essence is the same. The imperialists sought to divide Vietnam and for some time they succeeded. But did not the United States pursue the same plans of recarving Ethiopia and Angola and before that Zaire and Nigeria? French, and then African imperialism pinned hopes on the corruptive pro-Western groupings and regimes in South Vietnam and the African scene too offers many examples of the colonialists trying to set up puppet organizations.

One must also recall at this stage that it was in Vietnam that the imperialists first developed and tested their doctrine of Asians wiping out Asians. The recent developments in the Horn of Africa, in Zaire and the setting up of the inter-African forces sponsored by NATO prove that the imperialists would very much like to try and put into practice the principle of Africans wiping out Africans. The imperialist powers and China have used old border disputes in order to provoke Kampuchea into launching its aggression against Vietnam. This operation bears a striking resemblance to a very similar situation in the Horn of Africa.

All these parallels and comparisons are obvious. Both Vietnam and the African countries pursue a common struggle against the international imperialist quarters. In recent times they have all been facing a common threat of Chinese pressure and subversion and there are also other things that one has to bear in mind. The Americans brought their whole vast military potential against Vietnam. This pressure was much greater than was brought to bear by the United States on Hitler Germany and on militarist Japan in World War II. But the people of Vietnam, supported by the socialist community and above all by the Soviet Union, won the most difficult battle and there is every reason to believe there really cannot be any other outcome in Africa.

MOZAMBIQUE PRESIDENT SCORES IMPERIALIST AIMS IN ZIMBABWE

LD031630Y Moscow TASS in English 1440 GMT 3 Sep 78 LD

[Text] Maputo, September 3, TASS--The present aims of manoeuvres by imperialist and reactionary forces in the south of Africa are to discredit Zimbabwe freedom fighters, to split the Patriotic Front and sow discord among the frontline states, stated the chairman of the FRELIMO Party, president of the People's Republic of Mozambique Samora Machel. These forces, he said, strive to perpetuate the exploitation, oppression and racial discrimination of the broad popular masses in Zimbabwe.

Samora Machel firmly condemned the "internal settlement" agreement signed in Salisbury by Smith and African puppet figures, and leveled sharp criticism at the position of Britain and the U.S. on the Rhodesian problem. The president pointed out that the Western powers seek to retard the Zimbabwe people's advance to freedom and independence.

Touching on the Lusaka conference of the heads of the frontline states, Samora Machel noted that its participants firmly condemned reactionary machinations aimed at splitting the Patriotic Front. They once again unanimously reiterated loyalty to the struggle for liberating the Zimbabwe people.

GUINEA-BISSAU DELEGATION HEAD ON FRIENDSHIP WITH USSR

LD041313Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 31 Aug 78 p 4 LD

[TASS Report: "Talk Has Taken Place"]

[Text] On 30 August V.V. Kuznetsov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, received in the Kremlin a delegation from the National People's Assembly of the Republic of Guinea-Bissau headed by C. Pereira, member of the African Party for Independence in Portuguese Guinea and Cape Verde Executive Committee and first deputy chairman of the assembly.

During the friendly talk it was stressed that fruitful cooperation and friendly relations between the Soviet Union and the Republic of Guinea-Bissau are developing successfully and are being reinforced to the benefit of the peoples of the two countries for the sake of rallying the anti-imperialist forces and strengthening universal peace. C. Pereira expressed profound thanks for the opportunity to familiarize himself with the Soviet people's achievements in the country's social and economic development.

V.V. Kuznetsov expressed the hope that the Guinea-Bissau parliamentary delegation's visit to the Soviet Union will help strengthen the relations of friendship between the two countries.

On the last day of the visit, C. Pereira, head of the delegation, told a TASS correspondent: It was important for us, the representatives of a youthful republic, to learn as much as possible in order to later use the USSR's valuable experience in progressive transformations in Guinea-Bissau. We studied with tremendous interest the organization of industrial and agricultural production. The people of Guinea-Bissau value highly their friendship with the Soviet Union. We felt the strength of this selfless friendship in particular during the hard years of the liberation struggle. We continue to value this aid and support now, in days of peaceful building.

COOPERATION WITH MADAGASCAR STRENGTHENING FRIENDSHIP

LD051704Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1130 GMT 5 Sep 78 LD

[Text] Cooperation between the USSR and the Democratic Republic of Madagascar is strengthening. Within the framework of bilateral agreements and with the Soviet Union's assistance, Madagascar plans to build a cement works, a flour milling combine and elevators, and a powerful radio station.

The implementation of the contracts and agreements that have been signed, stated Rarivoson, the Madagascar minister of economy and commerce, serves the interests of developing the country's economy and further strengthening the friendship and fruitful cooperation between the peoples of Madagascar and the USSR.

KOSYGIN INTERVIEWED AT INDIAN NATIONAL EXHIBITION

BK0117357 Moscow in Punjabi to India 1330 GMT 31 Aug 78 BK

[Ira Patachi report on the just concluded Indian national exhibition in Moscow; passages within quotation marks are recorded portions of 30 August interview with Soviet Premier Aleksey Kosygin in Russian with Hindi translation superimposed]

[Excerpts] The Indian national exhibition in Moscow has concluded. The exhibition was visited by 2 million Soviet citizens, Moscow residents and guests.

Exhibition officials welcoming Aleksey Kosygin highly praised Soviet assistance and expressed confidence that Soviet-Indian friendship will grow even stronger. The Soviet premier was presented with a wooden figurine of a carpenter at work, which was completed by carpenters during the month in Moscow. The Indian ambassador informed Aleksey Kosygin that the gift is a symbol of Indian-Soviet friendship.

Prior to leaving the exhibition, the Soviet prime minister replied to questions from Soviet and Indian journalists. He said: "[Words indistinct] the exhibition impressed me very much. We saw heavy industries such as steel and machine manufacturing which depict the great progress made by India in all fields of its economy. This is all proof of India's march on the path to progress and the great achievements of the Indian people. There are sentiments of true friendship and sympathy for the Indian people in the hearts of the Soviet people. Our countries (?are truly friendly countries) and if you visit or meet anyone in any Soviet republic you will see their good wishes and respect for the Indian people. This exhibition has depicted the benefits of the cooperation between our two peoples in such fields as industry, agriculture, culture and science. This cooperation is mutually beneficial and demonstrates the aspirations of both countries.

"I take this opportunity to extend greetings, on behalf of the general secretary of our communist party, Leonid Brezhnev, and myself to the people of India, President Sanjiva Reddy, Prime Minister Morarji Desai and other Indian leaders.

"I am confident that our friendly relations are very strong, and we are always happy to witness the successes of the Indian people on the road to progress."

Replying to questions from journalists, Aleksey Kosygin said: "The Indian Ocean should be a zone of peace and all foreign military bases should be removed from the area. I am fully confident that all the littoral states of the Indian Ocean region are keenly interested in seeing that this region be one of peace and not of conflict.

"We will strive fully for the implementation of detente, as all peace-loving people are interested in it. There is no alternative to detente. Despite the fact that there are some people who want to reject it and bring back the cold war, I am confident that the peoples will not support them."

On disarmament, Aleksey Kosygin said: "We are in favor of a complete ban on all types of nuclear tests, ending the production of nuclear weapons and the destruction of all such stockpiles of arms. We are ready to solve this problem in every way, slowly, step by step and in the most effective manner."

Writing in the exhibition guest book, Aleksey Kosygin, chairman of Council of Ministers, said that "The Soviet Union gives importance to the Indian national exhibition in Moscow. We have seen that during their years of independence the Indian people have achieved much in their nation's economic, cultural and scientific progress. We are confident that India has great capabilities in its march forward toward improving the welfare of its great people and in all fields of human endeavor. To achieve this, India has rich natural resources, hard working people, expert workers, farmers and intellectuals and the desire to make efforts for development. In this task India can, with full confidence, count on the friendship and beneficial cooperation of the Soviet Union. This serves the interests of both peoples and also protects the interests of a stable peace in Asia and the world."

Indian Ambassador Inder Kumar Gujral thanked Aleksey Kosygin and the other leaders accompanying him for coming to see the exhibition and for their warm sentiments.

PRAVDA REVIEWS INDIAN, SOVIET FRIENDSHIP

LD0608Z1Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 31 Aug 78 p 5 LD

[Vladimir Shirokov article: "A Fine Tradition"]

[Text] The peoples of the Soviet Union and India have sincere, friendly feelings for each other. The Soviet-Indian friendship month in the USSR was graphic evidence of this. It was devoted to the seventh anniversary of the treaty on peace, friendship and cooperation between our countries, which is a reliable instrument for the development of their political, economic and cultural relations, and the 31st anniversary of India's independence.

The holding of such months has become a find tradition characterizing relations between our countries. The recent festival as marked by events of special breadth and variety. The Indian national exhibition, which ended in Moscow yesterday and which has been very popular, occupied a prominent place among them. At the same time, an Indian-Soviet friendship month was being held successfully in many Indian cities and settlements.

The Soviet Union attaches great significance to the development of diverse relations with India. "Close political and economic cooperation with India," Comrade L.I. Brezhnev noted, "is our constant course." Loyal to Lenin's behests, the Soviet Union is building its relations with this country proceeding from the interests of consolidating peace throughout the world and in accordance with the principles of peaceful coexistence.

Mutual understanding and the coincidence or proximity of positions on the fundamental problems of the present day promote the successful development of Soviet-Indian friendship. The two countries are taking part in the struggle to prevent a new world war, to halt the arms race and to develop and consolidate detente. They have come out for international cooperation on the basis of the principles of equality and mutual respect and strict observance of sovereignty and noninterference in the internal affairs of other states.

The years of India's independent existence have been a period of constant development of multifaceted cooperation between our countries. The friendship established in recent decades between the peoples of the Soviet Union and India can serve as a model for relations between states with different social systems. Such relations accord with the fundamental interests of both countries and are an important and effective factor in the consolidation of peace in Asia and throughout the world.

AFGHAN FOREIGN MINISTER AMIN SPEAKS AT KABUL EXHIBITION

LD052252Y Moscow TASS in English 2204 GMT 5 Sep 78 LD

[Text] Kabul, September 5, TASS--Member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan Hafizollah Amin spoke here at the ceremony of opening an exhibition of luxuries that belonged to the Nadir dynasty that ruled in Afghanistan before the April revolution. These luxuries were nationalised by the states.

In his speech, Hafizollah Amin stressed that the revolution made under the guidance of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan ended forever the political rule in the country of the flunkeys of imperialism, hangers-on to feudalism and reaction and turned over the power to the people whose interests are expressed by the vanguard of the country's working class, the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan.

We inherited from the rule of Nadirs an economy that was in disarray, Hafizollah Amin said. The People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and the Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan regard consolidation of the economy and its development in the interests of the improving the standards of the people as the most important task. Among the main measures of the government in the socio-economic sphere, H. Amin described cancellation of peasants' debts to feudals and usurers, formation of mutual benefit funds and peasants' cooperatives, drawing up of the five-year plan. "This policy of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and of the Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan evokes hatred of the enemies of the working people who plot against the revolutionary power with the use of agents of imperialism and world reaction."

But the masses of the working people and the armed forces of the country support resolutely the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and the revolutionary power, H. Amin said. Relying on this support, the party suppresses counter-revolutionary plots, consolidates its internal unity.

Touching upon the foreign policy of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, H. Amin said that the republic conducts the course of non-alignment and is striving to maintain friendly relations with all countries that recognized the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. He pointed especially in this connection to the extremely friendly stand of the Soviet Union that was the first to recognize the revolutionary regime. The Soviet Union's sincere and truly friendly relations with the Afghan people are part of our history, H. Amin said. They have been existing for six decades.

H. Amin stressed that the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan maintains very friendly relations with India and is trying to develop such relations with Iran, Pakistan and other Asian countries. The Democratic Republic of Afghanistan solidaries deeply with the national liberation struggle of peoples of Asia, Africa and Latin America. Throughout its history, the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan was resolutely supporting the heroic struggle of the peoples of Cuba and Vietnam. The Democratic Republic of Afghanistan now follows with profound sympathy the just struggle of the peoples of Angola Mozambique, Ethiopia, resolutely condemns the racist South African regime, strongly supports the struggle of Arab peoples against the forces of Zionism, imperialism and reaction.

PRAVDA CITES GDR WEEKLY'S ATTACK ON CAMBODIA, PRC ROLE

LD060809Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 3 Sep 78 p 5 LD

[Text] Berlin, 2 September, TASS--The foreign policy weekly HORIZONT describes the tragic consequences of Peking's "experiment" with Cambodia.

Falling into the trap of China's great Han expansionist policy, Cambodia is being used by the Peking leaders as a trump card for pursuing their great power, hegemonist course in Southeast Asia, the weekly writes. The present Cambodian leaders, the article points out, have betrayed the hopes of the country's people. Instead of working constructively for the sake of a happy, socialist future, the Cambodians have been forced to content themselves with "barracks socialism." Instead of living in peace with their neighbors, they have been dragged into a bloody conflict with Vietnam, which has always been their ally.

The false course in foreign and domestic policy pursued by the Phnom Penh leadership on Peking's orders, the weekly confirms, contradicts not only the interests of the Cambodian people. It harms the authority of the international communist movement, since imperialist propaganda is using Phnom Penh's nationalist and repressive policy to discredit the ideals of communism.

The weekly points out that the keen anti-Vietnamese orientation of the Phnom Penh leadership's actions and the policy of isolation with respect to the other socialist countries accords with China's great power, chauvinist aims.

SINGAPORE NEWSPAPER REPORTS CHINESE OFFICERS IN CAMBODIA

LD051322Y Moscow TASS in English 1229 GMT 5 Sep 78 LD

[Text] Singapore, September 5, TASS--Some 10,000 Chinese men and officers are at present in Kampuchea. The Kampuchean Army is controlled by Chinese military advisers, whose number has reached 6,000, says a report, published in the Singapore newspaper STRAITS TIMES. Chinese ships are supplying Kampuchea via Kompong Som port with warplanes, tanks and heavy artillery pieces. The press notes that a whole Kampuchean artillery division is equipped with Chinese arms.

VIETNAMESE NEWSPAPER PUBLISHES GEN VAN TIEN DUNG ARTICLE

LD011614Y Moscow TASS in English 1524 GMT 1 Sep 78 LD

[Text] Hanoi, September 1, TASS--National construction should be combined with national defence and socialist construction--with the defence of socialism--this is the law of historic development, stresses member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam, chief of the General Staff of the Vietnamese People's Army, General Van Tien Dung in an article, published by the newspaper QUAN DOI NHAN DAN, the publication of the main political board of the Vietnamese People's Army.

The article stresses that if aggressors lift the hand against Vietnam, they will have to deal with the united militant body of 50 million Vietnamese, and also with the entire forces of socialism, with the world revolutionary forces, the progressive mankind. The aggressors will find themselves in isolation, and they will be in for defeat. Imperialism and international reaction realize this full well, and are afraid of it. In their eyes, independent, reunited Vietnam is the main obstacle to realisation of dark designs in Southeast Asia.

The strength of our national defence lies in our national, comprehensively developed and up-to-date defence potential. We have at the ready 10 million courageous fighters who are ready to meet the enemy at any place of the country. The country, as a whole, if need be, will turn into a huge field of battle of people's and the revolutionary war for the defence of the socialist motherland.

The strength of our national defence, General Van Tieng Dung writes in conclusion, is closely linked with three main motive forces of our time: the socialist countries, the workers' movement in capitalist countries and the national liberation movement. The militant solidarity of our people and other revolutionary peoples of Indochina, and also solidarity, friendship and mutual assistance of our people and other progressive peoples of the world shall ever be the decisive factor of the success of our revolution. Never before our people have accumulated such a powerful defence potential as now and if the enemy unleashes an aggressive war against our country, these forces will surely multiply many times.

NGUYEN VAN LINH ADDRESSES VOLGOGRAD MEETING, HITS PRC

LD041255Y Moscow TRUD in Russian 31 Aug 78 p 3 LD

[Correspondent K. Voinov report: "Manifestation of Friendship"]

[Excerpts] Volgograd, 30 August--While in Volgograd, the Vietnamese trade union delegation headed by Nguyen Van Linh, member of the Politburo, secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam [VCP] and chairman of the Vietnamese Confederation of Trade Unions, yesterday visited the Volga pipe plant. The guests inspected the enterprise and visited the plant's room of combat glory. Then a Soviet-Vietnamese friendship rally was held in the electric pipe welding shop.

The gathering was addressed by Nguyen Van Linh, member of the Politburo, secretary of the VCP Central Committee and chairman of the Confederation of Trade Unions of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam [SRV], who was greeted with warm, prolonged applause.

"We have already spent several days in the Soviet Union," the speaker said. "We have visited a number of enterprises, including your plant. We have seen that the Soviet people work with tremendous enthusiasm everywhere, fulfilling the 25th CPSU Congress decisions.

"The people of Vietnam won a great victory over the U.S. imperialists. But now Peking has begun provocations against our republic. Blood is once again being shed on Vietnam's long-suffering land. The attempts which the Maoists are making to put pressure on the SRV expose the true face of Peking. But we are confident of our victory. We know that the Soviet people are alongside us, and we know that we can firmly count on the Soviet Union's support. May Soviet-Vietnamese friendship strengthen!"

Participating in the rally were AUCCTU Secretary K. Yu. Matskyavichyus; V. Ye. Sergeyev, chief of the AUCCTU Department for Relations With Trade Unions in Socialist Countries; and G.A. Boyko, chairman of Volgograd Trade Union Council. The Vietnamese trade delegation flew to Moscow today.

PHAM VAN DONG ADDRESSES HANOI NATIONAL DAY MEETING

LD011842Y Moscow TASS in English 1811 GMT 1 Sep 78 LD

[Text] Hanoi, September 1, TASS--The Vietnamese people are celebrating the national holiday of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. A celebration meeting devoted to the holiday was today held in the Palace of Assemblies in historical Bao Dinh Square. The audience met with a storm of applause the leaders of the party and state--Comrades Ton Duc Thang, Le Duan, Truong Chinh, Pham Van Dong and other leaders.

Member of the Politburo of the Communist Party of Vietnam CC, Prime Minister of the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam Pham Van Dong extended ardent greetings to the fraternal peoples of the Soviet Union, the fraternal peoples of the other socialist countries and friends in all continents. The speaker touched upon in detail on the present situation in the country and strongly criticised the policy of the Peking leaders vis-a-vis Vietnam.

Pham Van Dong expressed confidence that the Vietnamese people will foil all hostile intrigues, reliably protect the homeland and successfully build socialism.

MAZUROV, ZIMYANIN ATTEND VIETNAMESE FRIENDSHIP DAYS

LD012330Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 1 Sep 78 LD

[Text] A festive meeting of representatives of the Moscow public was held today devoted to the national holiday of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, and the opening of 10 days of Soviet-Vietnamese friendship in the Soviet Union. In the presidium were Mazurov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; Zimyanin, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; and other comrades. There were also delegations of Vietnamese trade unions and of the Vietnamese-Soviet Friendship Society.

SOVIET-SRV AMITY GROUP OFFICIAL ADDRESSES MOSCOW MEETING

LD011738Y Moscow TASS in English 1629 GMT 1 Sep 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, September 1, TASS--"The Soviet people shall ever be siding with the Vietnamese friends who are successfully building a socialist state," said Grigoriy Zolotukhin, deputy chairman of the Soviet-Vietnamese Friendship Society. He spoke here today at a celebration meeting, held to mark the national day of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

Soviet-Vietnamese friendship and all-round cooperation are based on the community of the Marxist-Leninist ideology, devotion to the principles of socialist internationalism, he said.

The reporter said that "the great-power chauvinistic course of the Chinese leaders, which has the aim to prevent the peoples of Southeast Asia from carrying out an independent policy, is being resolutely denounced by the Soviet Union, other countries of the socialist community, all friends of Vietnam. At friendly meetings, held in the Crimea between Leonid Brezhnev and leaders of socialist countries a principled appraisal has been made of Peking's policy hostile to the cause of peace and relaxation of international tension, the cause of socialism and progress."

JAPAN BEING DRAWN INTO U.S.-PRC 'GLOBAL GAME'

LD011706Y Moscow TASS in English 1627 GMT 1 Sep 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, September 1, TASS--TASS commentator Vasiliy Kharkov writes:

33 years ago, with the signature of the instrument of surrender by militarist Japan on September 2, 1945, World War II came to an end. This war, the bloodiest one in history, carried away over 50 million human lives. As an ally of the Hitler aggressors, Japanese militarism bears direct responsibility for this bloodbath, for the suffering it caused to many Asian peoples. Memories of those years are still raw in the minds of the peoples in these countries. Japan itself had to pay a dear price for the policy of the militarists who sought to seize foreign lands with sword and fire. The tragedy of Hiroshima and Nagasaki will long be remembered by the succeeding generations of Japanese people.

The situation in Asia has changed radically during more than three decades after the defeat of Japanese militarism. The countries of this vast continent, which have gained independence, have chosen peace and mutually beneficial cooperation as a general line of their foreign policy. The historic turn taken in recent years toward the relaxation of international tension, thanks to the purposeful efforts of the Soviet Union and other socialist countries, also makes itself felt in the expanses of Asia. Here, too, the deepening of the process of relaxation of international tension creates a basis for strengthening mutual understanding and goodneighbourly relations between states.

But there exists a serious danger of destabilisation of the political situation in Asia. Peking's hegemonistic policy has in its arsenal such methods as provocation of border conflicts, worsening of relations between Asian states and attempts to divide them. Facts go to show that China has set itself the aim of drawing Japan into the sphere of its great-power aspirations. Having signed "the Treaty of Peace and Friendship" with China, which include the notorious clause on joint struggle against "hegemony," Japan has found itself, whether it wants this or not, in the position of a country which facilitates the realisation of Peking's foreign policy aims. The fact that the United States has acted as a sort of catalyst in the conclusion of the Japanese-Chinese treaty, shows once more that Washington is interested in a joint strategy with Peking in this area. Thus, Japan is being drawn step by step into the global game of these two powers.

The militarist forces, which are becoming increasingly active in Japan, consider this situation, and not without reason, as beneficial to themselves. They go to such length as to issue calls for sending Japanese troops beyond the country and giving their command powers similar to those now enjoyed by the government. While doing so they pretend that the Japanese Constitution has no special articles banning the use of force or threat of force in solving international disputes.

The experience of recent history and the lessons of the events which determined 33 years ago the development of the situation in the Far East along new lines, show that Japan's national interests demand that the country should consistently pursue an independent policy of friendship and peaceful cooperation with all countries, and not follow in the wake of somebody's policy dangerous to the cause of peace.

JAPANESE SOCIALIST PARTY OFFICIAL INTERVIEWED ON USSR VISIT

LD041458Y Moscow TASS in English 1437 GMT 4 Sep 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, September 4, TASS--Having visited the Soviet Union, we are even more confirmed in our opinion that it is necessary to develop further the friendship between the Japanese and the Soviet peoples and to overcome, through joint efforts, the obstacles which stand in the way of the development of relations between the two countries, said Seiichi Kawamura, a prominent figure in the Socialist Party of Japan and member of the Chamber of Counsellors of the Japanese Parliament. He headed a delegation of the special committee of Japan's Socialist Party on Japanese-Soviet relations, which at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee, had stayed in the Soviet Union leaving for home on Sunday.

Our trip to the USSR has been very fruitful, said Seiichi Kawamura in a conversation with a TASS correspondent before flying home from Moscow. The delegation has had important meetings and discussions at the CPSU Central Committee as well as at Soviet Government institutions. During the discussions held, the Soviet side stressed its determination to further develop the good-neighbourly and friendly relations with Japan. At home, we shall try to bring this opinion to the notice of the Central Executive Council of the Socialist Party of Japan and of the rank-and-file party members.

This is a fifth delegation of the central bodies of the Socialist Party of Japan to visit the USSR, said Seiichi Kawamura. A broad exchange of opinions on different matters takes place during these successive visits. I take pleasure to point out the common position of the Socialist Party of Japan and the CPSU on many of these issues and our task is to expand the sphere of mutual understanding.

Of significant importance in this regard is the newly created, within the Socialist Party, special committee on Japanese-Soviet relations which is an influential and authoritative body. It is in charge of different matters pertaining to our mutual relations, contributing to the development of closer ties with the CPSU.

At present, the Japanese Government has embarked on the course of strengthening its military and political alliance with the United States of America and of intensive militarization of the country, head of the delegation continued.

That is why, in order to preserve peace both in Asia and universally, the Socialist Party of Japan must wage its struggle to liquidate the Japanese-American security treaty and to put an end to the country's militarization. It is also necessary to actively counteract the forces bent on obstructing the development of Japanese-Soviet relations. We are of the view that a closer friendship with the Soviet Union will contribute to the cause of peace in the whole world.

Seiichi Kawamura also referred to the recently concluded Japanese-Sino treaty. In his words, the Socialist Party of Japan is resolved to struggle against a possible emergence of a tripartite hegemonistic alliance of the USA, Japan and China.

The Socialist Party intends to pursue the line of developing friendly relations with the USSR and against the Far Eastern policy of the United States of America, he said. We are confident that if we wage a tenacious struggle in this direction, then, since peace is the chief desire of most Japanese, friendship and goodneighbourly relations between the peoples of our two countries will be more profound and solid. This will also be contributed to by the expanded cooperation in trade, economic area, science and technology, culture and fishing.

NICARAGUAN STRIKE AGAINST SOMOZA CONTINUES

U.S.-Nicaragua 'Partnership'

LD0502237 Moscow in English to North America 2100 GMT 4 Sep 78 LD

[Igor Dmitriyev commentary]

[Excerpts] When guerrillas from the National Liberation Front seized the palace in Managua last month the United States State Department came out with the following announcement: The United States condemns terrorism wherever it occurs and we are saddened by the loss of life and the injuries.

But there was no statement from any American department or government agency deploring the wanton killing of dozens of civilians in Matagalpa, Managua and other cities when [President Anastasio] Somoza sent in planes and armored vehicles to crush the strike for the establishment of democracy.

Over 40 years ago the United States helped Somoza's father crush the liberation struggle. American Marines broke the resistance of guerrillas led by Augusto Sandino, turning Nicaragua into heaven for the big business and hell for its people. The Somoza family is the biggest and richest single business there. Washington controls some 70 percent of all foreign investment, while the majority of Nicaraguans are deprived of the essentials of life.

The harmonious partnership of a dictatorship in Nicaragua and the free and democratic United States, as they call themselves, has fully stood the test of time. Judging by a complimentary message from President Carter to Somoza, this partnership wasn't soured even by the newest development in Washington's politics--preoccupation with human rights.

The scale of fighting in Nicaragua is said to have subsided a bit. The National Guard is reported to be in relative control of the situation. With every bomb dropped on Matagalpa and with every burst fired at Nicaraguans demanding democracy, Anastasio Somoza was paying off his debt to Washington that brought his family to power over four decades ago.

Somoza Increases Repressions

LD0417227 Moscow TASS in English 1605 GMT 4 Sep 78 LD

[Text] San Jose, September 4, TASS--Tension has been running high in Nicaragua for the second week now. Dictator Somoza is stepping up from day to day repressions against the people who demand that he immediately resign.

According to reports from Managua reaching here, the secret police of the dictatorial regime is carrying out mass arrests. Leaders of political parties, trade unions and student organizations are the main target of the persecution. Fifteen leaders of the broad opposition front uniting various political and democratic forces have been seized. The association of civil servants said that four of its leaders had been arrested.

Acting on Somoza's orders, soldiers of the National Guards--the "black berets" together with mercenaries from the USA--Vietnam "veterans", are continuing their short work of guerrillas in Matagalpa City. Eyewitnesses arriving in Costa Rica say that tank elements operating with the support of the airforce are killing the inhabitants of the city who put up the barricades resisting the punitive troops. A number of people have been killed, hospitals are overcrowded with the wounded.

But Somoza is unable to break the spirit of popular resistance by the campaign of terror. Ever new forces are joining in the nation-wide anti-government strike in answer to the call by the wide opposition front of August 25. It has been supported by the Nicaraguan development institute associating more than 600 industrialists and entrepreneurs, the Chamber of Commerce, medical men and owners of filling stations.

Fighting against the punitive troops has now spread from Matagalpa to the towns of Esteli, Sevaco, Diryamba and Granada. Detachments of the people's militia armed with rifles, pistols and home-made grenades are offering stubborn resistance to National Guards batallions. Exchanges of fire flare up from time to time in the capital too.

The democratic forces of Nicaragua are resolutely condemning the support given by the USA to the corrupt Somoza regime.

The Nicaraguan patriots are inspired in their struggle against the reactionary dictatorship by the mounting wave of international solidarity.

U.S. Considers Troops

LD012256Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2100 GMT 1 Sep 78 LD

[Text] The United States is preparing an armed incursion into Nicaragua, where mass demonstrations against the Somoza dictatorship are continuing. The Washington STAR reports that the relevant U.S. organs are now studying various courses of U.S. action in Nicaragua in case the rising against the dictator turns out to be successful. Even the dispatch of U.S. troops is not ruled out.

MEXICAN PRESIDENT SPEAKS ON FOREIGN, DOMESTIC POLICIES

LD012246Y Moscow TASS in English 2147 GMT 1 Sep 78 LD

[Text] Mexico City, September 1, TASS--President Jose Lopez Portillo of the Republic of Mexico declared his country's support for the sovereignty of all states of the world, the right of peoples of self-determination, to the principle of noninterference in the internal affairs of other countries.

The head of state specially noted among the most important foreign policy actions of his country his official visit to the USSR in May this year and the talk with General Secretary of the CPSU CC, President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Leonid Brezhnev and other Soviet leaders.

J. Lopez Portillo stressed his deep satisfaction with the fact that during his visit, the Soviet Union signed additional protocols to the Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapons in Latin America (the Tlatelolco Treaty). Thus, he said, was expressed the Soviet Union's readiness to contribute to disarmament and to banning nuclear weapons in Latin America.

The reports devotes much attention to the country's economic situation. The president said that Mexico is completing the state of overcoming the economic crisis.

Speaking on the problems of agriculture, he noted that the expropriation of latifundia will be continued. At the same time, the main objective in this field, according to him, is to ensure agricultural production on the land plots distributed among peasants.

In the part of the report dealing with home policy of the government, the president stressed the significance of the political reform being carried out by him in particular, the legalization of the communist and some other parties.

'ALARMING' LAGS HIT IN DEVELOPING OIL AND GAS PIPELINES

LD050927Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 Aug 78 p 1 LD

[Editorial: "Underground Main Arteries"]

[Text] Over the next decade, oil and gas will retain a decisive role in supplying the country with fuel and energy. The enormous distances separating the major oil and gas fields from the areas of consumption, and the considerable growth in the volume of extraction raise particularly acutely the problems of transporting these very important types of fuel. The 25th CPSU Congress set the task of introducing pipeline transport more extensively as the most economical form of transport. The CPSU Central Committee, USSR Council of Ministers, AUCCTU and Komsomol Central Committee letter on the launching of socialist competition notes: The efficiency of the national economy depends largely on the precise operation of all transport systems. This fully applies to main pipelines, whose role, given the scale of our country, is growing yearly.

Aware of their high responsibility, the collectives that build and serve the fuel arteries are seeking to fulfill successfully the plans and socialist pledges. The administration of Urals and Siberian main oil pipelines operators have achieved excellent production indicators. The workers of the Central Asia central gas transport system, the Uraltransgaz Association, the Tyumentransgaz Association and others have surpassed their pledges. As a result, in the first 7 months of this year the national economy has received over 3 billion additional cubic meters of "blue gold."

Over the 5-year plan period the network of oil and gas main pipelines is to increase by tens of thousands of kilometers. This year alone almost 2,400 km of arteries for transporting oil are to be laid. In addition it is planned to install over 30 pumping stations and to commission many storage facilities. An analysis of construction and installation work has shown that the target for the 7 months was not fully met. A big lag has been allowed in laying the Kiyengop-Naberezhnyye Chelny and Krasnoyarsk-Irkutsk underground pipeline. The situation on the Surgut-Polotsk pipeline is particularly alarming: In January-July only 25 percent of contract work was done here. Of course, in the final analysis such disruptions have a serious effect on transport potential. The delay in the commissioning of the Lisichansk-Kremenchug oil pipeline and of two pumping stations on the Kuybshev-Lisichansk pipeline alone increase the railroads' monthly load by 800,000 tons. The construction workers must overcome the lag rapidly and make up for lost time.

Gas industry projects must also be installed more rapidly. Last year a lag was allowed on the Urengoy-Nadym-Punga-Ukhta-Torzhok route. Now over 2,000 km of main pipeline and 22 compressor stations must be commissioned here. The collectives of the Ministry of Construction of Petroleum and Gas Industry Enterprises and of the Komigazprom and Tyumengazprom associations must speed up their work. Above all, by wintertime the gas pipelines leading to the industrial regions of the center and the Urals must be commissioned, and adjustment work must be completed, and underground reservoirs must be filled with the necessary amount of gas.

For the further development of pipeline transport it is very important to create more powerful remote-control switching units of large-scale blocks. A decisive role here belongs to the scientists, designers and collectives of power machine building enterprises.

The matter also requires a considerable improvement in the quality of steel pipes, insulation materials, shut-off devices, automation systems, and testing instruments. In order to accelerate the commissioning of new deposits extensive use must be made of plant-produced installations supplied in complete block complex units in construction. Machine building workers, metallurgical workers, chemical industry workers and workers in other sectors associated with the installation of main fuel pipelines are called upon to act in accordance with the construction workers, fulfilling a single plan, and to fulfill their orders punctiliously.

A key task is the thrifty consumption of gas. Thanks to a strict policy of thrift, the collectives of the Mostransgaz and Lentransgaz associations are overfulfilling the plan for marketable gas supply. This is the result of the skillful introduction of modern equipment, prompt preventive servicing of the underground arteries and switching units and constant concern for the growth of the cadres' professional skill. But matters are not proceeding successfully everywhere. In Uzbekistan and Saratovskaya Oblast, industrial losses of fuel are not being reduced, a large amount of fuel is expended over and above the plan, and the gas leakage is allowed. The Ministry of the Gas Indsutry must introduce optimal procedures for the operation of its transportation systems and the leaders of other departments and enterprises must introduce strict order and accounting procedures in the consumption of this valuable raw material.

On the eve of the fall and winter cold spells, the leaders of the underground transport arteries must check the progress of the repair of main pipelines, compressor and pumping stations, and installations supplying them with energy, fuel and communications lines. This season more extensive use must be made of the assembly and unit method of repair as well as guaranteed servicing of gas turbines and equipment, which will make it possible to accelerate work and improve its quality. Better use must also be made of the prewinter period to construct and repair more housing for the line service workers. Good conditions must be created for people's everyday life and well-spent leisure.

Party committees are called upon to remember the work of the underground main pipelines collectives--a crucial element in the country's economic organism--and to be more exacting in demanding precise fulfillment of state plans for oil and gas deliveries of leading cadres. In verifying the course of socialist competition, those points of the pledges providing for the high reliability of systems in the cold part of the year, exemplary preparation for the operation of the fuel arteries in winter and the efficient use of all resources merit the special attention of party and trade union organizations.

The uninterrupted supply of oil and gas along the underground main pipelines will promote successful operation of the national economy and help us to fulfill ahead of schedule the targets of the third year and the 5-year plan as a whole.

CSA: HARVEST RATE INCREASING IN NON-CHERNOZEM ZONE

LD052040Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 5 Sep 78 LD

[Text] Our editorial board has just received the report by the RSFSR Central Statistical Administration on the progress of fieldwork in the sovkhozes, kolohozes and interfarm enterprises of the RSFSR.

The harvesting rate has increased in the Volga-Vyatka, Central, and Northwest areas of the Non-Chernozem Zone. Only in Kostromskaya Oblast is this work being carried out as slowly as before.

Grain and pulse crops have been cut in the entire RSFSR on about 54 million hectares; 83 percent of harvested grain has been threshed. The gathering of bread grain is nearing completion in Povolzhye and the Central-Chernozem Zone.

Harvesting in Siberia and the Urals is being conducted under difficult weather conditions.

Rye has been harvested in the RSFSR on almost 90 percent of the fields.

The gathering of groats, potatoes and vegetables is gaining momentum everywhere.

Simultaneously with the harvesting the machine operators are taking care of next year's harvest. About 8 million hectares have been sown to winter crops; this is 1/3 of the plan. In some oblasts, in particular Voronezhskaya, Yaroslavskaya and Volgogradskaya oblasts this work is lagging. About 12 million hectares of land have been plowed for spring sowing.

RADIO REPORTS AGRICULTURAL PROGRESS FOR 5 SEP

LD060402 [Editorial Report LD] Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 0100 GMT on 5 September reports that in Kemerovskaya Oblast 50 percent of the corn has been cut and over 1 million tons of haylage has been laid in, 2.5 times last year's quantity.

In its 0500 GMT newscast, the station reports that:

--In Kurganskaya Oblast, grain crops have been threshed on 250,000 hectares;

--In Omskaya Oblast, grain crops have been cut on 1/3 of the harvesting area;

--In Saratovskaya Oblast, the harvesting of sugar beets began on 5 September. A total of 190,000 tons are to be sold to the state;

--In Dagestanskay ASSR, the first rice harvesting machines have appeared in the Terek Valley, where a record 100,000 tons of rice have been pledged.

At 1600 GMT the station reports that in Belorussia over 2 million hectares of cereals have been cut and threshed.

At 1900 GMT the radio reports that in Kustanayskaya Oblast grain crops cover 4.5 million hectares this year. Grain has been harvested from 1/2 this area so far. Due to favorable weather and the efficient organization of labor, grain is being harvested at the rate of 200,000 hectares a day. The radio adds that in Kurskaya Oblast, 250,000 hectares have been plowed, 20 percent of all allotted area.

CSA REPORTS FODDER PROCUREMENT PROGRESS BY 28 AUG

LD0608llY Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 1 Sep 78 p 2 LD

[TASS report: "The Fodder Reserves Are Filling Up"]

[Text] The "green harvest" is continuing in the country's meadows. By 28 August, the USSR Central Statistical Administration has reported, machine operators had carried out the first mowing of sown and natural grasses on 71.4 million hectares. Kolkhozes and sovkhozes have procured 46.6 million tons of hay--74 percent of plan. The laying down of cured hay is continuing. More than 68 million tons have been obtained, or 110 percent of the plan. Some 5.1 million tons of artificially dried grass meal and other fodders, including grass chaff, have been produced; this is 72 percent of the plan.

The rate of silage procurement is increasing. In the past week 9.4 million tons were obtained, making a total of over 36 million tons since the start of the season.

Farms are filling up the fodder stores with straw, chaff, and sugar beet and potato tops, striving to insure that adequate fodder is provided for livestock.

NIVIN CRITICIZES RSFSR AGRICULTURAL SHORTCOMINGS

LD011437Y Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 31 Aug 78 p 1 LD

[I. Nivin agricultural review: "On the Threshold of Fall"]

[Text] According to the figures of the RSFSR Central Statistical Administration, by 28 August kolkhozes and sovkhozes in the RSFSR had cut grain and pulse crops (excluding corn) on 45.3 million hectares, which is 59 percent of the sown area. Grain crops from 36.4 million hectares have been threshed. The main harvesting work is now taking place in the RSFSR Non-Chernozem Zone, the Urals and Siberia.

On the whole, however, the course of the harvest cannot be considered satisfactory in northern and eastern regions of the republic. Less than 10 percent of cereals in Permskaya, Omskaya and Chitinskaya oblasts has been threshed toward the end of August. Reaping is being carried out slowly in Tyumenskaya, Vologodskaya, Tomskaya and Kostromskaya oblasts, where less than 1/2 the grain tracts have been put into windrows. In a number of places a considerable lag occurs between reaping and threshing. Half of the cut grain crops is lying in windrows on kolkhozes and sovkhozes in the Bashkirskaya and Tatarskaya ASSR's.

The rate of grain delivery to the state is low in a number of oblasts. Approximately 1 million tons of grain have accumulated on kolkhoz and sovkhoz threshing floors in Tambovskaya Oblast. The grain dispatching situation is no better in the Tatarskaya ASSR and Penzenskaya and Kirovskaya oblasts. Poor work by threshing floors and transport facilities is causing this.

In Tomskaya Oblast's Zhe rskiy Rayon, for example, 25 percent of the trucks are standing idle at the height of the harvest.

Siberia is not treating grain growers to fine days. Grain is coming from the fields with increased moisture content. Nevertheless, conditions for drying it have by no means been created at all threshing floors and grain reception centers. The harvest has taken the workers of Karasuk grain reception center in Novosibirskaya Oblast by surprise: The drying equipment here had not been fully prepared by the start of harvesting.

Mass lifting of potatoes has begun in Bryanskaya, Kurskaya and Voronezhskaya oblasts. The sugar beet harvest is not far off. The volume of transport movements is increasing sharply in this connection. Are the transport services ready for this? Not everywhere, unfortunately. The North Caucasus and Kuybyshev railroads are already in debt to harvest reception enterprises for 1,857 cars.

Russian flax growers are keeping a difficult watch these days. They have to harvest fiber flax from 650,000 hectares. The belated and irregular ripening of flax demands maximum competence from the farmers employed in harvesting and total readiness on the part of the processing enterprises.

The ripening of fruit, vegetables and melons on RSFSR kolkhozes and sovkhozes is belated this year--which imposes special responsibility on farmers for timely gathering and good preservation of this produce. However, the Chuvashskaya and Udmurtskaya ASSR's and Tulskaya and Penzenskaya oblasts are being slow to procure vegetables. A reliable base for vegetable storage has been created far from everywhere. Farmers have serious complaints against the RSFSR Ministry of Trade, which has not insured the plan for the construction of fruit and vegetable stores. Premises for fruit and vegetable storage are being constructed extremely slowly in Penzenskaya and Tyumenskaya oblasts.

While harvesting grain and vegetable crops under complex conditions, farmers today are also concerned about next year's harvest. However, the soil is still not being prepared quickly for winter sowing everywhere. Kolkhozes and sovkhozes in the Mariyskaya, Kabardino-Balkarskaya and Severo-Osetinskaya ASSR's and Yaroslavskaya and Ivanovskaya oblasts have prepared less than 40 percent of the area for sowing of winter crops.

The "green harvest" is continuing in the republic's meadows. At the same time, large tracts of natural and sown grasses have still not been cut in a number of regions--for example, in the Kabardino-Balkarskaya and Buryatskaya ASSR's. In the republic as a whole, the amount of hay and grass meal procured is below target.

AGRICULTURAL SUPPLY BODY SETS OUT MEASURES TO END LAGS

LD041357Y Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 30 Aug 78 p 1 LD

[Yu. Grachev report: "Special Attention to the Countryside's Order"]

[Text] A regular session of the All-Union Operations Staff for Material and Technical Supply to Agriculture has been held. A.A. Yezhevskiy, chairman of the USSR Soyuzselkhoztekhnika, noted that the grain harvest has now shifted to eastern and northern regions of the country and mass harvesting of sugar beet, potatoes, cotton and other cultivated crops is in progress. [paragraph continues]

This requires the mobilization of all the reserves not only of rural workers but also of industrial workers who provide the kolkhozes and sovkhozes with machinery, spare parts and other material and technical facilities. But the lag in the work of a number of enterprises is causing some equipment to stand idle in the countryside. In particular, the preparation of beet harvesting combines, potato harvesting machines, tractors, motor vehicles and rice harvesting combines for the harvest is being held up. The alarm calls sent by rural workers to the all-union operations staff attest that much of the blame here rests with the collectives of the Ternopol and Dnepropetrovsk combine plants, the Ryazselmash Production Association, the Dalselmash plant, the Krasnoyarsk and Taganrog combine plants and other enterprises.

The situation is further complicated by rail transport's failure to cope with shipments of the necessary harvesting equipment to the countryside and its delay of the dispatch of cars to be loaded with machinery, spare parts and petroleum products. In a number of places kolkhozes and sovkhozes are experiencing an acute shortage of fuel for motor vehicles because the plan for dispatching it from the intake points [punkty naliva] to the local petroleum bases is not being fulfilled. The main reason is the nonfulfillment of the plan for the supply of tanks by the USSR Ministry of railroads.

The staff session also criticized the Ministry of the Chemical Industry, the Ministry of the Petroleum Refining and Petrochemical Industry and the Ministry of Machine Building for Animal Husbandry and Fodder Production. Those taking part in the session set out measures providing for the punctilious fulfillment of all orders for agriculture.

Responsible workers of the CPSU Central Committee, USSR Council of Ministers, USSR Gossnab and USSR People's Control Committee took part in the work of the meeting.

SELKHOZTEKHNIKA CHAIRMAN ON AGRICULTURAL SUPPLY PROBLEM

LD041513Y Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 30 Aug 78 p 1 LD

[SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA interview with A. Yezhevskiy, USSR Soyuzselkhoztekhnika chairman: "The Harvest Toil at its Height"]

[Excerpts] [Question] Today all Soviet people are filled with rural concerns. First of all, we ask you, Aleksandr Aleksandrovich, to tell us how the instructions of the CPSU Central Committee July Plenum on the harvest are being implemented.

[Answer] In terms of the overall volume of work and the number of machines taking part, the harvest campaign in our country now has no equal. The grain harvest has already been completed in the south, is in full swing in central regions, and is only just reaching the north. The harvest toil now involves cotton growers, beet growers, potato growers, vegetable growers....

The scale of this year's harvest is really impressive. The harvest is to be gathered from a total area exceeding 211 million hectares. This includes 126 million hectares of grain crops, many tens of millions of hectares of industrial crops, potatoes, vegetables and melons, orchards and vineyards, and 58 million hectares of fodder crops. A high responsibility and a tremendous load rests with rural workers, industrial workers involved in providing for the harvest and in patronage work, transportation workers.

Unfortunately, weather conditions are difficult. The late spring and abundant rain in the summer months caused a delay in the ripening of grain, and in many cases the grain was lodged. In order to cope with the task, the machine operators of kolkhozes and sovkhozes and specialists and workers at local selkhoztekhnika associations and industrial enterprises are showing great persistence. They are making broad use of various devices for harvesting lodged and tangled grain crops, and are disseminating the progressive Ipatovskiy Rayon method of organizing harvest work. A staunch battle for the harvest is in progress.

Fodder is a special concern. It can be considered a major achievement that this year, probably for the first time, the plan for the procurement of cured hay had already been overfulfilled by mid-August (about 65 million tons). The target for hay procurement has been two-thirds fulfilled (over 41 million tons). The mass procurement of silage will soon begin as the front line of the harvesting of corn and other silage crops spreads.

[Question] The harvest work has reached its zenith. There is already a great deal of work. How well is the harvesting campaign supplied with machinery, and what is the readiness level of vehicles and machinery for the successful completion of work?

[Answer] Apart from a large pool of tractors, trucks and trailers, kolkhozes and sovkhozes have a considerable amount of harvesting machines. Among them are more than 700,000 grain harvesting combines, nearly 430,000 windrow harvesters, and 530,000 silage harvesting, potato harvesting, cotton harvesting and other combines.

But we must not be complacent. The peak of the grain harvesting work is rapidly moving to the east, but in Kustanayskaya, Novosibirskaya, and Kurganskaya oblasts and Altayskiy Kray many grain harvesting combines have still not been repaired. In the southern regions, where the time for mass harvesting of crops with a later ripening time is approaching, thousands of beet harvesting, cotton harvesting and corn harvesting combines have still not been put back into service. These shortcomings must be eliminated energetically and rapidly.

[Question] How is the repair and technical servicing of machines and their provision with spare parts, fuel and lubricating materials organized during the harvest period?

[Answer] This year over 20,000 farms are using the services of the selkhoztekhnika for the technical servicing of vehicles and machinery. That is why round-the-clock work by repair enterprises and mobile teams has been organized in many regions for the harvest period. I will not say that everything runs smoothly in this sector; there are stoppages. But their causes are found on the spot and we correct the situation.

The situation with respect to provision of spare parts for vehicles and machinery is more complex. This problem remains acute. The output of spare parts provided by the plan does not fully satisfy requirements. But certain enterprises even permit themselves not to fulfill what is planned. For instance, the Altay and Minsk motor plants, the Pavlodar, Volgograd and Chelyabinsk tractor plants, the Tula and Taganrog combine plants and certain others are indebted to rural machine operators. In certain respects the situation is very bad. Thus the Orlovskiy gear plant and the Minsk motor plant had a shortfall of more than 11,000 crankshafts for MTZ-50 tractor engines. That means that some of these machines, which are so vital for many types of harvesting work, may remain "laid up," as the machine operators say.

Moreover, it is not so much a matter of quantity--the quality of spare parts produced at certain enterprises does not meet requirements. In this connection the machine operators have very serious complaints against the Kursk tractor parts plant, the Yerevan and Baku avtozapchast plants, the Kharkov proshen plant and certain other enterprises.

This year the desire of patrons--industrial enterprises and construction sites--to give rural areas assistance of a technical nature is becoming more apparent: assistance in repairing vehicles, restoring worn parts and components and manufacturing those in shortest supply. This is a great help and this initiative must be encouraged.

But even machinery that is ready for work does not always "go": Certain regions are having difficulties with fuel and lubricants. The other day SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA wrote about this in detail. All of us who are involved in resolving this question, above all the RSFSR Main Administration for the Transportation and Supply of Petroleum and Petroleum Products, must adopt urgent and effective measures to rectify the situation.

[Question] Aleksandr Aleksandrovich, what are the long-term questions which the experience of the current harvest poses to industry?

[Answer] Priority significance is attached to increasing the production and deliveries to rural areas of vehicles and equipment to handle grain on farms after the harvest, particularly for drying. I will stress again: The need to increase production of spare parts for agricultural machinery--up to a level meeting technical norms for their expenditure--is particularly acute. And, of course, their quality must be sharply improved. The wide dissemination of the Ipatovskiy Rayon method of organizing harvesting work produces additional demands for an increase in the supply to rural areas of welding equipment, mobile equipment for the technical servicing and refueling of units in the fields, and repair materials--electrodes, welding wires and so forth.

Very important new tasks are arising for tractor builders. In his report at the CPSU Central Committee July Plenum Comrade Leonid Ilich Brezhnev stressed: Above all the structure of tractor production is in question. We must insure the delivery to kolkhozes and sovkhozes of the most efficient tractors, with maximum power available per worker, together with the necessary set of attachments and trailer machines and instruments." This involves a great work program not only for the next few years but for the next 5-year plan. It was developed in further detail in the CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers resolutions approved by the plenum. And we can be confident that the tasks set by the party and government will be successfully fulfilled.

COSMONAUTS PERFORM EXPERIMENTS, CHECK ONBOARD SYSTEMS

LD051046Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0830 GMT 5 Sep 78 LD

[Text] Vladimir Kovalenok and Aleksandr Ivanchenkov are continuing work onboard the Salyut-6-Soyuz-31 orbital scientific research complex. Today's program includes medical and biological experiments as well as checking individual onboard systems and units of the station and the ship. The cosmonauts are well.

Cosmonauts Begin 84th Day

LD052354Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2230 GMT 5 Sep 78 LD

[Text] Today, Kovalenok and Ivanchenkov began their 84th day in orbit. On the day's program are: Medical monitoring of the cosmonauts, biological experiments, visual observations and photographing of the earth in the interests of various branches of the national economy.

A TV report is also planned.

All on-board systems of the orbiting complex Salyut-6-Soyuz-31 are functioning normally.

The cosmonauts are feeling well.

BRIEFS

POLAR GAS DEPOSIT--Moscow, September 4, TASS--The new technology developed by Soviet experts will make it possible to extract gas from the earth frozen down to a depth of 50-100 meters and swept by icy winds. Soviet experts are drawing up a project for the development of a big gas deposit in Yamal Peninsula beyond the polar circle. The gas-fields will be manned by teams periodically relieving each other. They and their families will permanently reside in the well-appointed town of Vorkuta situated at a distance of 500 kilometers south-west of the gas-fields. The personnel of the gas-fields and equipment will be delivered to Yamal by air. The problem of gas transportation from the remote area will also call for a non-traditional solution. A considerable part of the gas will be liquefied in place and then carried by sea in special tankers. The rest of the fuel will be pumped through a gas pipeline tens of kilometers of which will run across the bed of the Kara Sea. [Text] [Moscow TASS in English 0858 GMT 4 Sep 78 LD]

ANTARTIC EXPEDITION CONTINUING WORK--The new 24th Soviet Antartic expedition will be continuing the integrated study of the vast territory adjoining the Weddell Sea, where numerous mountain ranges and peaks are situated. About 150 specialists will take part in the work. Relying on the Druzhnaya seasonal base they will be making landings from helicopters and aircraft deep within the continent. Seven further research posts--temporary scientific villages--will be founded. Altogether it is proposed to explore a territory of 200,000 square kilometers. [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0700 GMT 2 Sep 78 LD]

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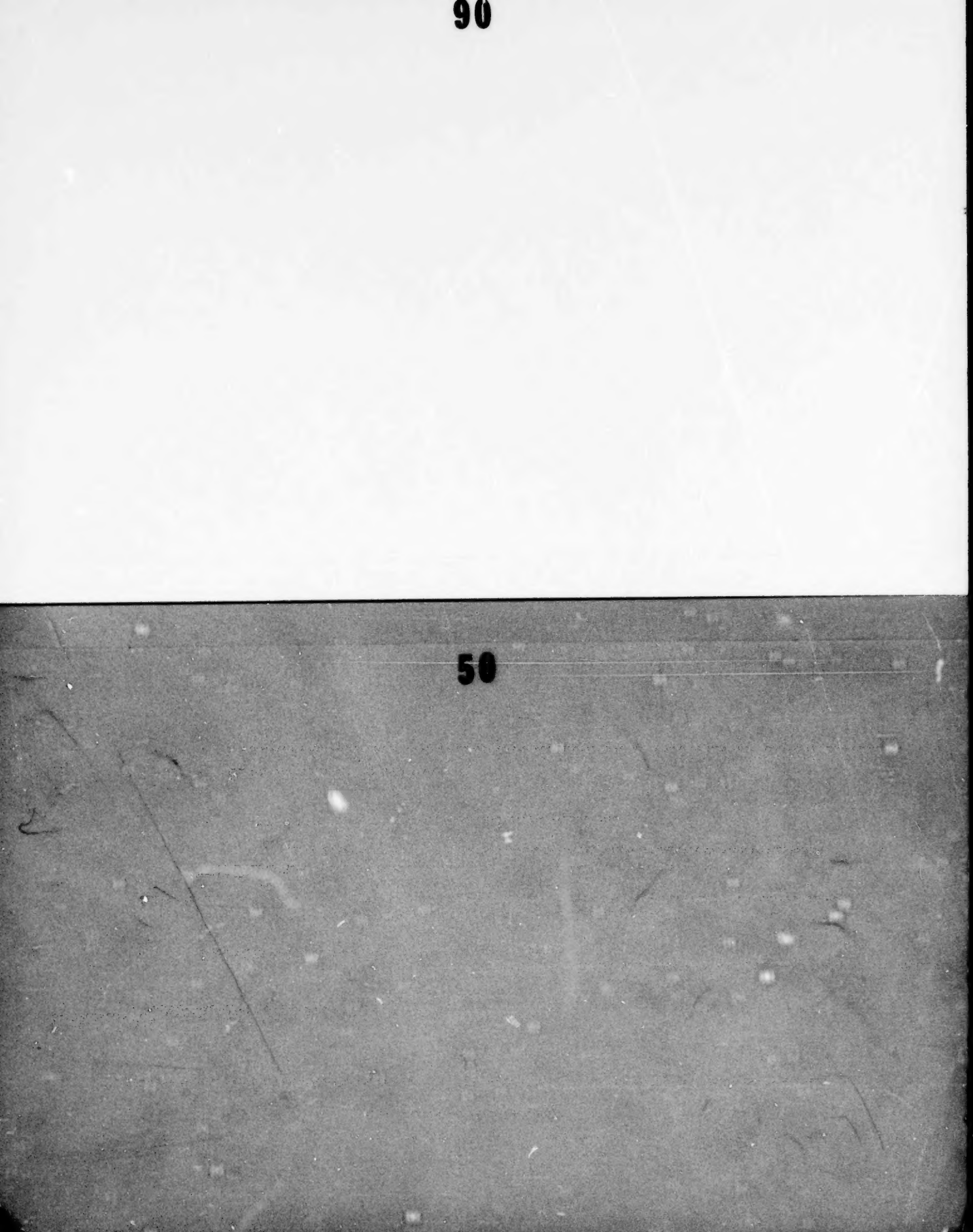
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